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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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75¢

NMC to graduate largest batch

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Part of the 204-strong graduating batch of the Northern Marianas College 2016 class pose for a group photo after attending yesterday's baccalaureate mass presided by Rev. Fr. James Balajadia at the San Jose Church.

The largest batch of graduates from the Northern Marianas College will be receiving their respective degrees in the 35-year institution's 2016 commencement exercise on Saturday at 4:30pm at the Koblerville Gym across Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

NMC will be conferring 204 degrees this year, which NMC Academic Programs and Services dean Barbara Merfalen said is "record breaking in NMC's history in terms of the number of degrees awarded."

NMC interim president David J. Attao said that they are proud of all their graduates and their accomplishments. "They have worked so hard to reach this accomplishment and we applaud all of them for their commitment and unwavering dedication to their studies."

"We are also very proud to be graduating the first group of students

See NMC on Page 4

Welcome ceremony for traditional navigators at FestPac

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The sound of the blowing of conch shells echoed at the Chamolinian Cultural Village in Garapan signaling the start of the last leg of the voyage of traditional navigators from Micronesia.

The *Alingano Maisu* and two other smaller canoes from Satawal Island in Yap State left at around 5pm yesterday to attend the 2016 Festival of the Pacific Arts in Guam.

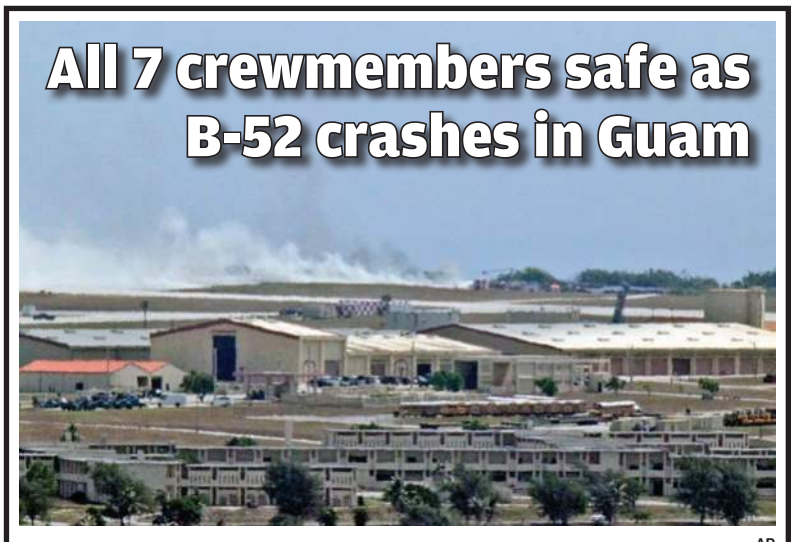
Carolinian Affairs Office executive director John Tagabuel said the blowing of the conch shells is a traditional ceremony that signals the start of every voyage. It signals the navigators going out of land to board their vessels and head out to sea.

The *Maisu*, which came from Palau, the two smaller canoes, the Sakman Chamorro—another traditional voyaging canoe that sailed from San Diego in California—and 11 other vessels will be part of the traditional welcoming of seafarers, a pre-opening event of the 12th edition of the quadrennial event on Sunday.

Tagabuel said the *Maisu*, the two Satawal canoes, the Sakman, and the

See WELCOME on Page 4

All 7 crewmembers safe as B-52 crashes in Guam



AP
Smoke from the crash of a B-52 is seen on the flight line at Andersen Air Force Base from Mt. Santa Rosa, Yigo Guam, Thursday, May 19, 2016.

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—All seven crew members made it out safely as their B-52 crashed in Guam shortly after takeoff, the U.S. Air Force said. No injuries were reported.

The plane aborted on takeoff and caught fire at about 8:30 a.m. Thursday Guam time, Pacific Air Forces public affairs said in an email. It crashed on the flight line of the base.

The bomber was deployed to Guam from Minot, North Dakota, as part of the military's continuous bomber presence in the Pacific, The Air Force said. The crew members

See B-52 on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
Non-profit group Chamolinian Cultural Inc. received a $5,000 donation from Bridge Capital.

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LOCAL
Mount Carmel School's Mock Trial Knights held their own in competitive rounds at the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Competition held last week in Boise, Idaho.

PAGE 21

LIFE & STYLE
Three pie-eating competitions highlighted the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 14.

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Local

IN CONTRACT TO OVERSEE SAIPAN CASINO PROJECT

3 bid for govt construction manager job

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Three bids are in for a construction manager job to oversee Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's sprawling casino project on Saipan, even as the casino company continues months into construction of their $550-million, 14-story Grand Mariana Casino Resort in the heart of Garapan.

Hiring this construction manager was mandated when the exclusive casino license agreement between the CNMI and the casino was signed two years ago in 2014.

The manager is meant to keep the casino project on schedule and keep it in line with license and regulatory requirements, among others. The manager will be a construction or engineering firm to serve as the Commonwealth's representative on the "Development Plan Advisory Committee," a working group made up of the engineering firm hired by the casino and a firm with integrated resort experience to represent the CNMI.

The bids closed this May 2, *Saipan Tribune* learned Wednesday, after an original bid first closed in November with only one submission.

That sole bid, however, was rejected on the grounds of conflict of interest, as a contractor involved in the bid was found to have business ties with Best Sunshine, the Saipan casino, *Saipan Tribune* gathered yesterday.

The slow-going on the construction manager company, who would have been directly reporting to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, comes as regulatory officials continued to cite through February to April numerous violations of permitting rules meant to prevent runoff and pollution at the casino's Garapan construction cite.

Among others, regulatory officials have confirmed complaints of casino construction crews defecating on the beach side of the project site.

Regulatory officials have also found, according to Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality files released late April, that the casino company's construction workers worked through ways to illegally pump the project waste and discharge into the lagoon through deficient runoff and erosion controls discovered unpermitted runoff pipes and ponding basins; and that construction workers had excavated grounds outside their permitted construction site, among others.

Construction workers have also seemingly disobeyed orders to stop working past extended working hours granted by the bureau, despite having the hours pulled a day before. These construction workers continued to work into the night and Sunday, a day where construction is not permitted, in apparent plain sight to regulatory officials, according to these documents.

The Grand Mariana Resort currently eyes a completion date sometime in the first quarter of 2017.

DPAC is set have a three-member committee assigned to review the proposal: a licensed engineer from the Bureau of Environmental and Costal Quality, an engineer from Public Works or the Capital Improvement Office, and an engineer of the casino. DPAC was established

See 3 BID on Page 4

Battle of bartenders at Taste of the Marianas tomorrow

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The third Saturday night of the Taste of the Marianas will again feature the islands' talented bartenders as the Northern Marianas Bartenders Association will host another round of Bartenders' Cocktail Competition tomorrow.

A total of 10 contestants will be battling it out for the best show while making their own great cocktails at the American Memorial Park starting at 6:30pm.

Six contestants will compete for the Battle of the Rookie, while four will vie for the Battle of the Champions.

This year's challenge is entitled "Absolut Exposure Challenge" as the main alcohol to be used in the event is Absolut vodka.

For the rookie division, criteria for judging were 30 percent for originality, 30 percent for taste, 20 percent for showmanship, and 10 percent each for neatness and audience impact.

Runners-up will receive $25 to $75 in cash and gift prizes, while the champion will receive $150, a gift prize, a trophy, and a mobile phone.

Best in Show and Best in Taste will also take home a trophy plus $50 and a gift.

For the champion division, criteria for judging will be 20 percent for originality, 20 percent for taste, 40 percent for showmanship, and 10 percent each for neatness and audience impact.

Runners-up will receive $50 to $100 in cash and gift prizes, while the champion will receive $250, a gift prize, a trophy, and a mobile phone.

Trophies will be awarded to the Best in Showmanship along with $75 and a gift, while the Best in Taste will also get a trophy and $50 along with a gift.

A special award for props and costume will also be given a trophy and a gift.

All winners will receive a trophy and a medal while all participants will receive a certificate of participation.

Last year, Jeffric Christian D. Mendoza of Hard Rock Café Saipan won first place for the rookie division, while Ronnie Guevara of Aqua Resort Club won the champion division.

"I am inviting everyone to watch the talent of our contestants," association president Lito Espino said.

This year's sponsors are R&J Wines and Spirits, SAMCORP Imports, TITAN's, Marianas Visitors Authority, DFS Galeria, IT&E, Coca-Cola, ARMATECH, Marianas Resort & Spa, Hyatt Regency Saipan, GRANDVRIO Hotel, Pacific Islands Club, and the Northern Marianas Bartender's Association.

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- Sunday Evening - 6:00pm
- Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Service - 7:00pm
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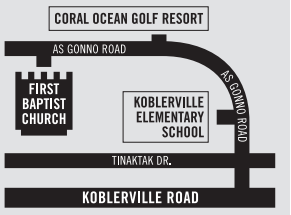

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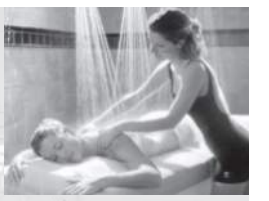

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IN JUCUTAN'S ONGOING JURY TRIAL

FBI special agent, some 'nominees' take witness stand

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Joseph William McDoulett testified yesterday in the ongoing jury trial in federal court of former U.S. Army Reserve member Jordan M. Jucutan.

The prosecution also called to the witness stand some of the 38 who were allegedly nominated by Jucutan to join the U.S. Army Reserves.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing called FBI special agent McDoulett to the witness stand after William Stewart, a retired U.S. Marine Corps. officer who served as deputy program for Document & Packaging Brothers Inc. (Docupak), completed his testimony.

Docupak was a contractor tasked to administer the Army Reserve Recruiting Assistant Program (AR-RAP).

McDoulett, the case agent in Jucutan's case, said he first learned about defendant's scheme when the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID) brought a case in Guam in October 2014.

McDoulett said CID's concern was that they believe that some individuals received payments from the AR-RAP for their role as Recruiting Assistants through fraud.

He said investigation showed that AR-RAP procedures were not followed.

McDoulett explained how the AR-RAP worked.

He disclosed that Jucutan nominated 38 people and that they focused their investigation only on four people where they believed their investigation is most effective.

Of the nominated 38 people, only 15 were allegedly nominated with the consent of the future soldiers.

Jucutan allegedly received $17,000 of total compensation after nine of his nominees signed enlistment papers and shipped to boot camp.

McDoulett said they chose to focus on the four people, where they believed the scheme was egregious.

The special agent said the scheme involved filling the gaps in the AR-RAP process with false information.

He said Jucutan's objective of the scheme was to get paid for nomination.

McDoulett said Jucutan got paid for nominating the four persons—Elfleda Castro, Jacob Lizama, Ronnel Gamboa, and Diana Garton.

He said Jucutan inputted the information and Docupak received the information.

The agent said he personally interviewed the four and others out of 38 nominees.

McDoulett said he did not interview Jucutan, but other FBI and CID investigators did.

After McDoulett, Lorfing called Jeffrey Raymond Bacani, Benjamin Paul Taisacan Manglona, Archibald Ajoste, and Nazario Omar Ajoste.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom late afternoon, Nazario Ajoste was still on the witness stand.

Bacani testified, among other things, that Jucutan spoke to him about joining the Army Reserve and that at that time he was interested in joining the Army.

Bacani eventually enlisted in the Army Reserves. He then became a Recruiting Agent and actually recruited his two friends and got paid for it.

Bacani described the assistance he received from Jucutan to join the Army Reserve as "not whole lot."

"He just told me kind of what to expect," he said.

Benjamin Manglona, a firefighter, said that in 2007 he was interested in joining the Army Reserve, but he passed the test only in his third attempt.

Manglona said he met Jucutan at the Army Reserve Center in Puerto Rico, where Jucutan provided him tips on how to pass the test.

He said Jucutan called him that he passed the test and he will be going to Guam for a physical.

Manglona said Jucutan asked for his Social Security and other personal information that are needed for his Guam physical test.

Manglona said a day before his departure to Guam, he received a call that he had problem with his test.

He said he was so upset and just forgot about his desire to join the Army Reserve.

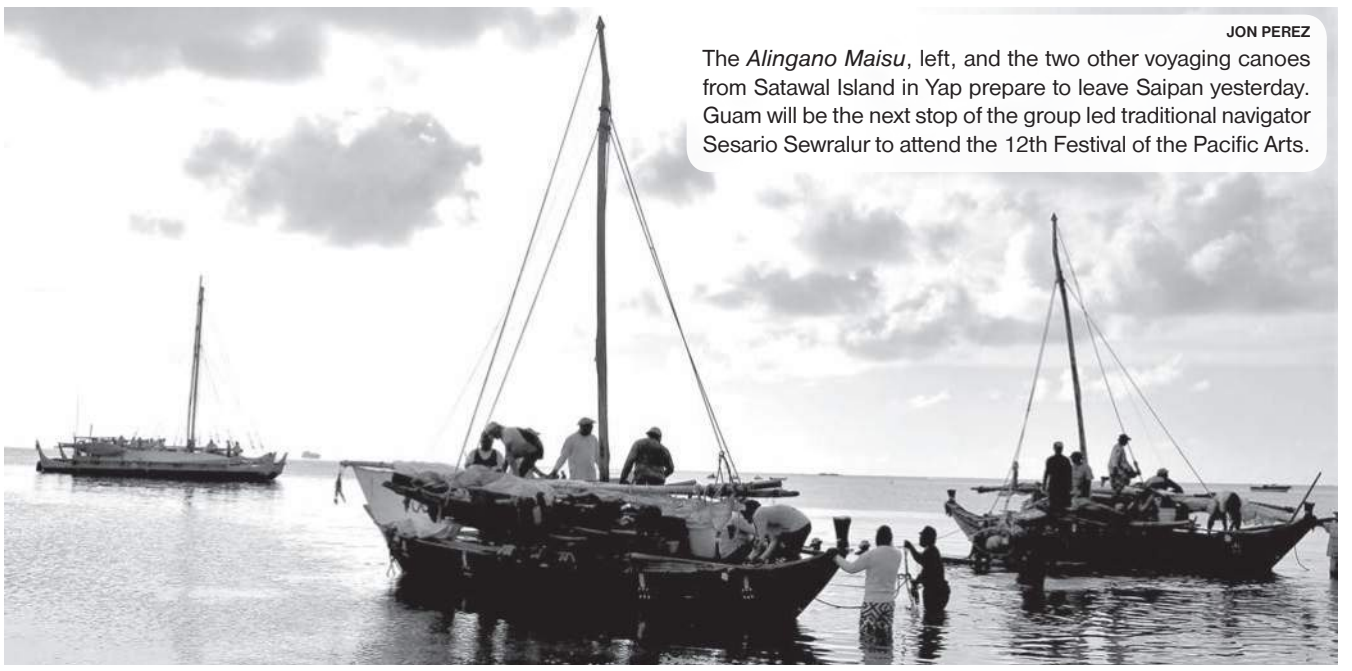
Manglona said at that time he blamed everyone and the Army system.

Manglona said he was not aware that Jucutan nominated him to the Army Reserve and that the defendant used his Social Security number.

He said Jucutan never told him that he got money from recruiting him.

Archibal Ajoste said Jucutan was his high school classmate and that he was not interested in joining the Army and in fact wanted to join the Air Force.

Ajoste said he and Jucutan never discussed about joining the Army. He said he is not aware that Jucutan nominated him for the Army and that he did not give him his Social Security and other personal information.



JON PEREZ

The *Alingano Maisu*, left, and the two other voyaging canoes from Satawal Island in Yap prepare to leave Saipan yesterday. Guam will be the next stop of the group led traditional navigator Sesario Sewralur to attend the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts.

WELCOME

From Page 1

11 other vessels would sail from Agana Bay entering the boat basin just a few meters away from the Paseo de Susana Park in Hagatna, the center of activities of the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts. The ceremony begins at 5am and is expected to end at around 8am.

"The *Maisu* and the two smaller canoes are expected to arrive Saturday evening near Guam but they would remain in the water until Sunday's traditional welcome. They will be just a few miles near the shore," said Tagabuel.

He added that all 15 vessels—from Guam, Palau, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Australia—will wait for the signal to simultaneously sail toward the boat basin at the Paseo de Susana Park to start the traditional welcoming of the seafarers ceremony.

Songs, dances, and chants will be part of the program where organizers and other officials and the other delegates are expected to welcome them. The public is also invited to join the festivities.

Tagabuel said the Carolinian community on Saipan welcomed the return of the traditional navigators that was led by Sesario Sewralur, the son of legendary master navigator Pius Mau Piailug, and John Lalogo.

Sewralur sailed from Palau along with nine others including his 7-year-old son Dylan. They waited for Lalogo's group composed of 15 other Satawalese on Saipan.

A crowd of close to 100 at the beach watched as the three sailing canoes left Saipan under the setting sun.

"The Carolinian community came out to give them a warm and open-hearted welcome. We were really excited to see them again, it has been five years since they came here on Saipan," said Tagabuel.

"We wish them safe travels to Guam. The voyage has been hard for them especially the two small canoes, they were just near Rota when they encountered dead winds and that's the reason why they arrival was delayed."

Tagabuel said learning and practicing traditional seafaring takes a lot skill. "Traditionally navigating a canoe is a skill and part of our culture. You will learn to read the stars, know the condition of the water, and watch the direction of the wind."

Guam, with Micronesia taking its turn to host the quadrennial event, is hosting the two-week long Festival of the Pacific Arts, which opens on Sunday and ends on June 4. Hawaii, Polynesia, will host the 13th Festival of the Pacific Arts in 2022.

NMC

From Page 1

who have earned their bachelor's degree in business management," Attao added

NMC offered the degree program two years ago to accommodate the growing need to the local work fore.

Education, liberal arts, natural resource management, nursing, business administration, criminal justice, and hospitality management are the other bachelor's degrees that NMC will confer.

Attao said most of the graduates overcame different challenges in their lives just to finish a college degree.

"Some were juggling full time jobs, raising families, or battling illness. Nonetheless, they were all determined to reach this milestone so other opportunities to better their lives can open up for them," he said.

"We are also impressed at the resilience of our students and our employees. Despite having been impacted greatly by the devastation of Super Typhoon Soudelor, they were able to recover and continue their educational journey," he added.

"We are also thankful for the help of our government leaders, business community, and our employees who helped the college rebuild from Soudelor's wrath."

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will be giving the leadership award, while students that finished with the highest grade point average will also be honored.

The ceremony will also be streamed live at www.marianas.edu/nmclivetv so relatives and friends who are off-island and could not attend could watch the proceedings.

B-52

From Page 1

are with the 69th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron and were performing a routine training mission, it said.

A message left with the Minot base public affairs office seeking further comment was not immediately returned.

The incident is under investigation. The Air Force is taking steps to mitigate any possible hydraulic oil and fuel contamination, said Capt. Ray Geoffroy, spokesman for Pacific Air Forces. The plane was taking off with a full load of fuel.

He said there was no danger to the community from any of the plane's weapons.

The Air Force has been rotating B-1, B-2 and B-52 bombers through Guam since 2004 to boost the U.S. security presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

A B-52 crashed off Guam in 2008, killing all six crewmembers on board. That plane had been flying around the island as part of Guam Liberation Day celebrations, marking the day when the U.S. military arrived to retake control of the island from Japan during World War II. The B-52 had been scheduled to conduct a flyover in a parade.

Guam is a U.S. territory 3,700 miles southwest of Hawaii.

3 BID

From Page 2

to facilitate communication between the CNMI and the licensee, implement license requirements, and implement development schedule.

The committee is responsible for reviewing and advising on the design of the initial gaming facility and the integrated resort.

The CNMI's representative on the committee will report directly to the CNMI governor.

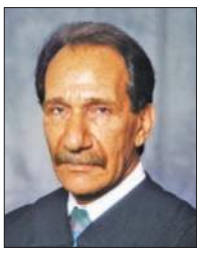
Once selected, the winning firm would consult the CNMI governor and help steer the ambitious casino project, monitor the casino's development, and track how it meets project implementation schedules.

Among many others, Best Sunshine must meet requirements inclusive of 2,000 hotel guest rooms; 17,000 square meters of total gaming floor area; 13,532 square meters of food and beverage outlets; 15,000 square meters of retail space; a 600-seat theatre; 9,094 square meters of meeting space, including a ballroom; 200 villas; and a $100-million themed entertainment facility.

According to its exclusive casino licensing agreement, Best Sunshine must complete "Phase 1" of its casino project within 36 months of land acquisition.

Wiseman bangs gavel for last time

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER


Wiseman

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman yesterday banged the gavel for the last time after serving the bench for 15 years, making him the longest to serve as associate judge of the CNMI Superior Court.

"It's sad. It's closing a significant chapter of my life," the 74-year-old Wiseman told S*aipan Tribune*.

After presiding over a hearing in a criminal case in the morning and a civil case in the afternoon, Wiseman announced that it was the last criminal and civil cases calendar that he handles after 15 years of service on the bench.

» Judiciary holds retirement ceremony today

Attorneys James Sirok, Joseph E. Horey, Robert Myers, and Joe Hill, who were in the courtroom for the proceedings, approached Wiseman and sent their best wishes.

Wiseman came to the CNMI in 1977, while Hill arrived in 1979.

Wiseman and his wife are now staying in Hawaii. He said if the CNMI Judiciary needs his service, he will visit to do mediation.

The Judiciary will hold today, Friday, a special proceeding for Wiseman's retirement at the CNMI Supreme Court at 10:30am.

Wiseman is the 15th judge to serve the Commonwealth Judiciary. He also served the people of the CNMI as a designated judge of the U.S. District Court for the NMI for 14 consecutive years.

He spent more than 38 years of his career in the CNMI.

Wiseman began work in the Commonwealth as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer, serving the pre-Commonwealth government of Rota.

He served the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd CNMI Legislature as legal counsel and the 5th and 11th as a committee counsel. He represented several government agencies as a private attorney, while simultaneously serving as a special judge for several years.

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PH consular mission for Saipan, Tinian set

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

This year's third Philippine mobile consular outreach in the CNMI will be held on Saipan and Tinian.

According to the Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam, in coordination with Philippine Honorary Consul to the CNMI, Glicerio Arago, the mobile consular outreach on Saipan will be held at the ground floor of the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe from May 30 to June 2 from 9am to 5pm.

The mobile mission will move to Tinian at the Lorilynn Hotel on June 3 from 12pm to 6pm and June 4 from 9am to 5pm.

The batch of passport processing on Saipan will accommodate 320 individuals who are already prescheduled.

The list and schedule of applicants can be viewed at the PCG-Agana's Facebook page at http://bit.ly/1U1eMz9.

Applicants included in the list are advised to be present in the venue on the date and time indicated in the schedule. The time slot of the "no show" applicants will be cancelled.

The consulate reminds that all e-passport applications require "personal appearance" and applicants are requested to wear proper attire such as shirts with collar.

For Tinian, applicants for the passport renewal will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis based on the listed names submitted by Rod Cabarles at the consulate general.

Applicants are advised to prepare the copies of the required documents for the renewal of passport, which can be viewed at http://bit.ly/1TILGER.

For more information and confirmation, please call (670) 233-6293 and look for Mel Santos for Saipan and or Cabarles at (670) 788-6144 for Tinian.

Musician gets 3.5 years of time served for sexual abuse of minor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Dan Kalikohua Johnson, a musician who was slapped with a 10-year jail term in 2013 for sexually abusing a minor girl but whose convictions were vacated last year, entered on Tuesday a plea of no contest and was sentenced to 3.5 years of imprisonment.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman gave the 39-year-old Johnson credit for 1,274 days or 3.5 years of time served.

It means that Johnson will no longer serve more time in prison.

Johnson, through counsel assistant public defender Michael Sato, signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded a no contest to sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

In exchange, assistant attorney general Shannon Foley, counsel for the government, agreed to move for the dismissal of the remaining charges. The court granted the motion.

Wiseman placed Johnson on supervised probation for 6-and-a-half years and ordered him to pay a $1,000 fine, $1,000 in probation fees, plus $100 in court costs.

The judge required no unsupervised contact with any minor during the period of probation and ordered Johnson to continue to register with the CNMI Sex Offender Registry and submit to examinations focusing on sex offender counseling.

A review hearing will be on Oct. 4, 2016.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Johnson with attempted sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, assault and battery, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, in April to May 2009 on Saipan, Johnson touched the genitals of a girl who was under 13 years of age at that time.

In April 2013, a Superior Court jury found Johnson guilty of attempted sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree and sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

Wiseman, who ruled on the misdemeanor charges, found Johnson guilty of one count of assault and battery, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

The sexual abuse allegedly happened on May 17, 2009, while the attempted sexual abuse occurred on June 23, 2012.

Police said the investigation began on June 24, 2012, when they received a call about a girl who ran away from home. When a detective met and asked the girl why she ran away, she confessed that Johnson sexually abused her on May 17, 2009.

In July 2013, Wiseman sentenced Johnson to a total of 17 years in prison, all suspended except 10 years.

Johnson, through counsel, appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court.

Johnson argued, among other things, that the trial court erred in admitting several hearsay statements and by failing to issue a limiting instruction for fresh complaint evidence.

Johnson also asserted that the cumulative impact of multiple trial errors necessitated reversal.

In December 2015, the CNMI high court vacated Johnson's convictions and ordered a new trial. The defendant then signed a plea deal with the government.

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5/1 Sunday Brunch $22	5/2	5/3 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/4 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/5	5/6 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/7 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
5/8 Mother's Day Brunch $25	5/9	5/10 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/11 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/12	5/13 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
5/15 Sunday Brunch $22	5/16	5/17 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/18 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/19	5/20 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/21 Seafood Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
5/22 Sunday Brunch $22	5/23	5/24 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/25 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/26	5/27 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/28 Seafood Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
5/29 Sunday Brunch $22	5/30	5/31 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)				

* *Our **"Dolphin"** restaurant (10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan) has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu ($8~) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner ($35). Open time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm / Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm Last Order: 8:30pm*
* ***"Starlight BBQ"** Dinner Buffet Location: Poolside Price: Reg. AD $39 CH: $19 (Local: AD $35/ CH $17) Business hrs: 6:00-9:00pm*
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2016 LibDay attracts volunteers near and far

Skywalker Communications Group managing director Dr. Hu Bo, standing center, joins his staff in welcoming the volunteers of this year's Liberation Day festivities in last Wednesday's orientation at their office at the Marianas Business Plaza.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers this year will have the opportunity to be involved in marketing, planning, and running the 2016 Liberation Day events, which will take place from June 10 to July 9, 2016.

On Wednesday, May 18, Liberation Day volunteer coordinator and Skywalker employee, Levonne Pangelinan, conducted this year's first volunteer orientation at the Marianas Business Plaza. In attendance were nearly 40 volunteers from various parts of the community, which included visiting volunteer, Guo, who flew in specifically to offer his extensive knowledge and experience in the field of event organization and management.

The volunteers program is a great way for community members to get involved in the CNMI's largest and longest running annual event. This year, Skywalker in cooperation with the Liberation Day Committee and the Saipan Mayor's Office are placing more emphasis on service learning for volunteers. Volunteers will be able to rotate through different support groups as well as further explore areas of professional interest. Much like last year, CNMI youth are stepping up to commit to community service and gain valuable experience in the process.

"I am really excited about having the opportunity to learn photography and videography from someone who has worked on a Hollywood television series like *Hawaii Five-0*," said a first-time volunteer.

2016 Liberation Day Festivity sponsor, Saipan Ice and Water, generously donated water and ice for this year's volunteers. Marianas Business Plaza also kindly offered the use of their ground floor space along with seating. The Saipan Mayor's Office, Skywalker, and the LDC would like to thank these sponsors for their continuing support of the festivities and the volunteers.

The Liberation Day Festivities organizers will continue to accept applications from individuals who were not able to attend yesterday's orientation. Forms can be picked up at the Skywalker Communications main office on the second floor, room 2014 at the Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe.

Members of the Liberation Day Committee, Skywalker Communications, Group, Saipan Mayor's Office, and Liberation Day Foundation will conduct the orientation.

For more information, please contact Pangelinan at 234-234-7942 or email ldc-nmi@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

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'Happy Marianas' song, music video promotes CNMI tourism

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority now has its own song and music video that showcases the breathtaking views and adventure-driven activities in the island as well as promotes tourism in the CNMI.

Bateman

According to MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman, the whole production of the song and music video entitled "Happy Marianas" has been in the works for more than 12 months.

"It has been in the planning, writing, and artistic production phase for over a year," Bateman said.

The objective of the music video is to promote the Northern Marianas Islands as a "happy, safe, and idyllic destination."

The current production lyrics are in Japanese, but the song's main message can be summarized as enticing listening to "be happy on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and come to the CNMI and have fun as residents and tourists from all walks of life do in the video," according to Bateman.

Bateman said the song will be reproduced in other languages.

"MVA has acquired the full intellectual property rights to the original music and the video. MVA will likely reproduce this in other languages and will likely also show it, or portions of it, with just the music soundtrack and no voice-over. Parts of the video will likely be used in shorter advertising media and other formats," Bateman said.

Bateman said this kind of visual depiction is a "very important part of modern advertising and destination marketing activities."

"It will be used in Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, and Russia at a minimum and perhaps elsewhere," he added, "It will also be shown at trade shows and destination seminars in our offshore source countries."

The project was funded by MVA which was a result of research and recommendations made by the Japan ad hoc committee made up of key local stakeholders in the tourism business and with the assistance of their Japan and headquarters office staff.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Above left, Triple J Saipan's 3J For Life team presents a $7,000 check to 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer organizers, Commonwealth Cancer Association. Above, Team 3J For Life poses at the 2016 MMAC event at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Triple J joins 2016 MMAC as Team 3J For Life

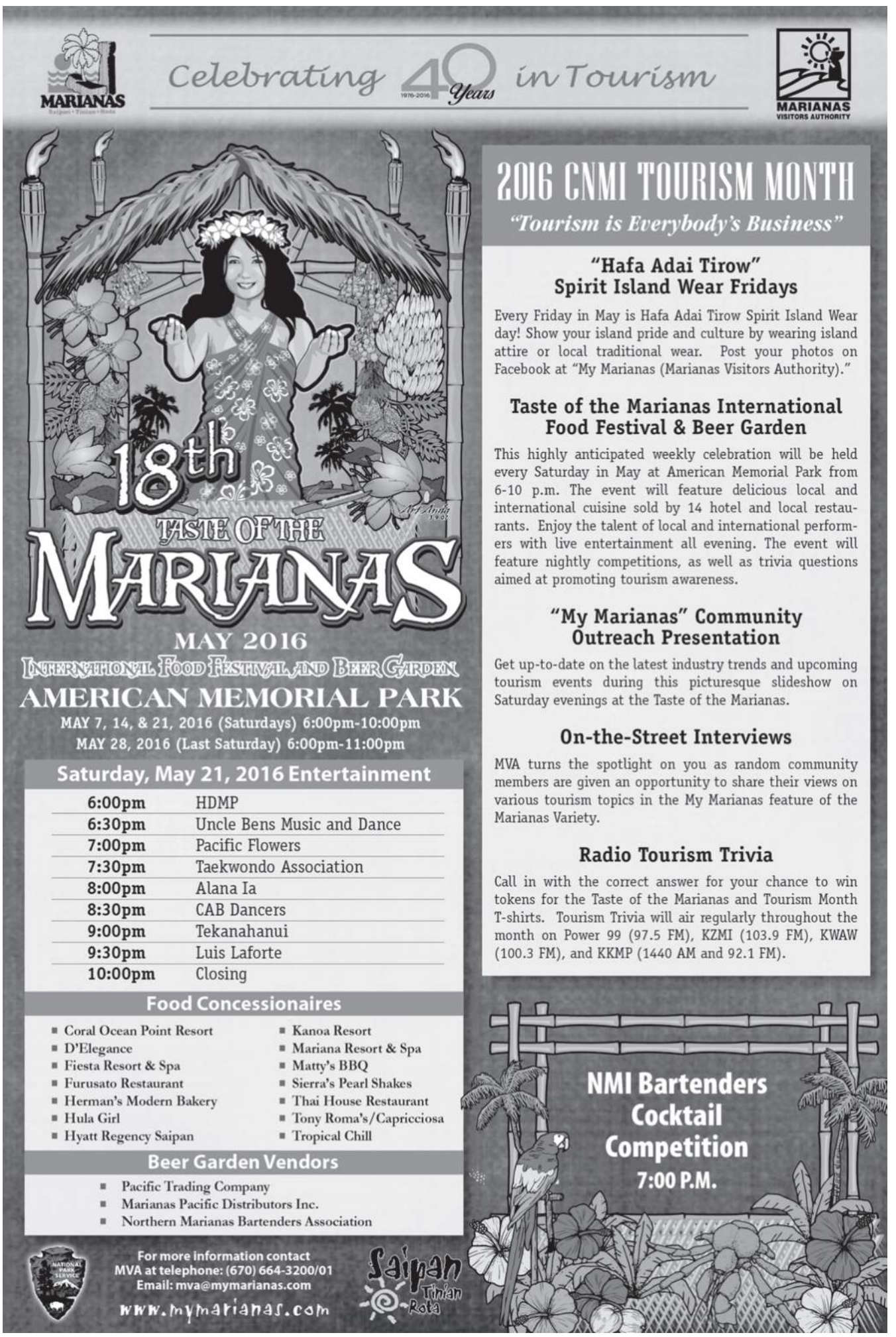
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang poses with members from Team 3J For Life.

This year Triple J Saipan had the honor of participating in the Marianas March Against Cancer as a team participant nicknamed 3J For Life. The event was held at Hopwood Jr. High School with a record 18 teams participating. Triple J and all affiliated companies raised a total of $7,000 with fundraising efforts that included Nathan's Famous Hot Dog sales event at Saipan Little League games, $1 donations for every ice tea sold at Triple J restaurants, donations with every car sold at Triple J Motors, donations for every car rented at Hertz, and MMAC tent games and bento box sales at the event.

Triple J Guam is very active in the annual Relay for Life event, which MMAC is based on. Kris Lujan, Triple J's VP of Marketing and Public Relations stated, "It is important for us as a family owned enterprise to support cancer outreach and prevention efforts; our business focus has always been on giving back to those who have helped us prosper, and the Jones family, like most families have been affected by cancer. There is no greater feeling than standing alongside organizations who are committed to fighting the good fight until the very end, from prevention at an early age, to being a support system to those who are afflicted, to helping fund research."

3J For Life chose "I will Survive" for the introduction team song and used '70s inspired decorations for their tent. Mario Valentino, a Triple J volunteer and employee, stated, "the song is not only uplifting, but can also be considered an anthem for those that have survived cancer as well as the family and friends left behind from a tragic loss." Over 50 Triple J volunteers attended the event, showing solidarity with the community and support for the cause. ***(PR)***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Every Friday in May is Hafa Adai Tirow Spirit Island Wear day! Show your island pride and culture by wearing island attire or local traditional wear. Post your photos on Facebook at "My Marianas (Marianas Visitors Authority)."
Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden
This highly anticipated weekly celebration will be held every Saturday in May at American Memorial Park from 6-10 p.m. The event will feature delicious local and international cuisine sold by 14 hotel and local restaurants. Enjoy the talent of local and international performers with live entertainment all evening. The event will feature nightly competitions, as well as trivia questions aimed at promoting tourism awareness.
"My Marianas" Community Outreach Presentation
Get up-to-date on the latest industry trends and upcoming tourism events during this picturesque slideshow on Saturday evenings at the Taste of the Marianas.
On-the-Street Interviews
MVA turns the spotlight on you as random community members are given an opportunity to share their views on various tourism topics in the My Marianas feature of the Marianas Variety.
Radio Tourism Trivia
Call in with the correct answer for your chance to win tokens for the Taste of the Marianas and Tourism Month T-shirts. Tourism Trivia will air regularly throughout the month on Power 99 (97.5 FM), KZMI (103.9 FM), KWAW (100.3 FM), and KKMP (1440 AM and 92.1 FM).
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MAY 2016
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MAY 28, 2016 (Last Saturday) 6:00pm-11:00pm
Saturday, May 21, 2016 Entertainment
6:00pm HDMP
6:30pm Uncle Bens Music and Dance
7:00pm Pacific Flowers
7:30pm Taekwondo Association
8:00pm Alana Ia
8:30pm CAB Dancers
9:00pm Tekanahanui
9:30pm Luis Laforte
10:00pm Closing
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Saipan Tinian Rota

Ghatoliyool clan forms Chief Aghurubw Foundation

Newly elected officers with board members and advisors of the Chief Aghurubw Foundation pose for a group photo. Standing from left, Jose Lifoifoi, Pedro Deleon Guerrero (president), Sen. Sixto Igisomar, Donald Barcinas, Carolinian Affairs Office's John Tagabuel, Kodep Ogumoro-Uludong, and Herman Deleon Guerrero. Seated from left, Tricia Taitano (secretary), Arlene Cholymay (treasurer), Antonio Rasiang, Laura Ogumoro, and Sid Seman
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Chief Aghurubw Foundation, Inc., a chartered nonprofit corporation, was established by the Ghatoliyool Clan to protect, promote, educate, and research the rich heritage, cultural values, and beliefs of the Refaluwasch of the Northern Mariana Islands; to promote harmonious relationships of the Refaluwasch and other nationalities in the CNMI; to promote education social and economic and political aspirations and welfare of all Refaluwasch and members of the Foundation.

Chief Aghurubw, of the Ghatoliyool Clan from Satawal Island, is widely recognized by the Refaluwasch community for his efforts to resettle his people on Saipan after a major typhoon devastated their islands in 1815. Commemoration ceremonies are held annually in September on Managaha (Ghalaghaal) Island where the chief's monument stands. This year will mark the 46th annual commemoration of Chief Aghurubw.

CAF is organizing various activities and special projects to help fulfill its mission. A major fundraising activity will kick off in August 2016 at Saipan World Resort.

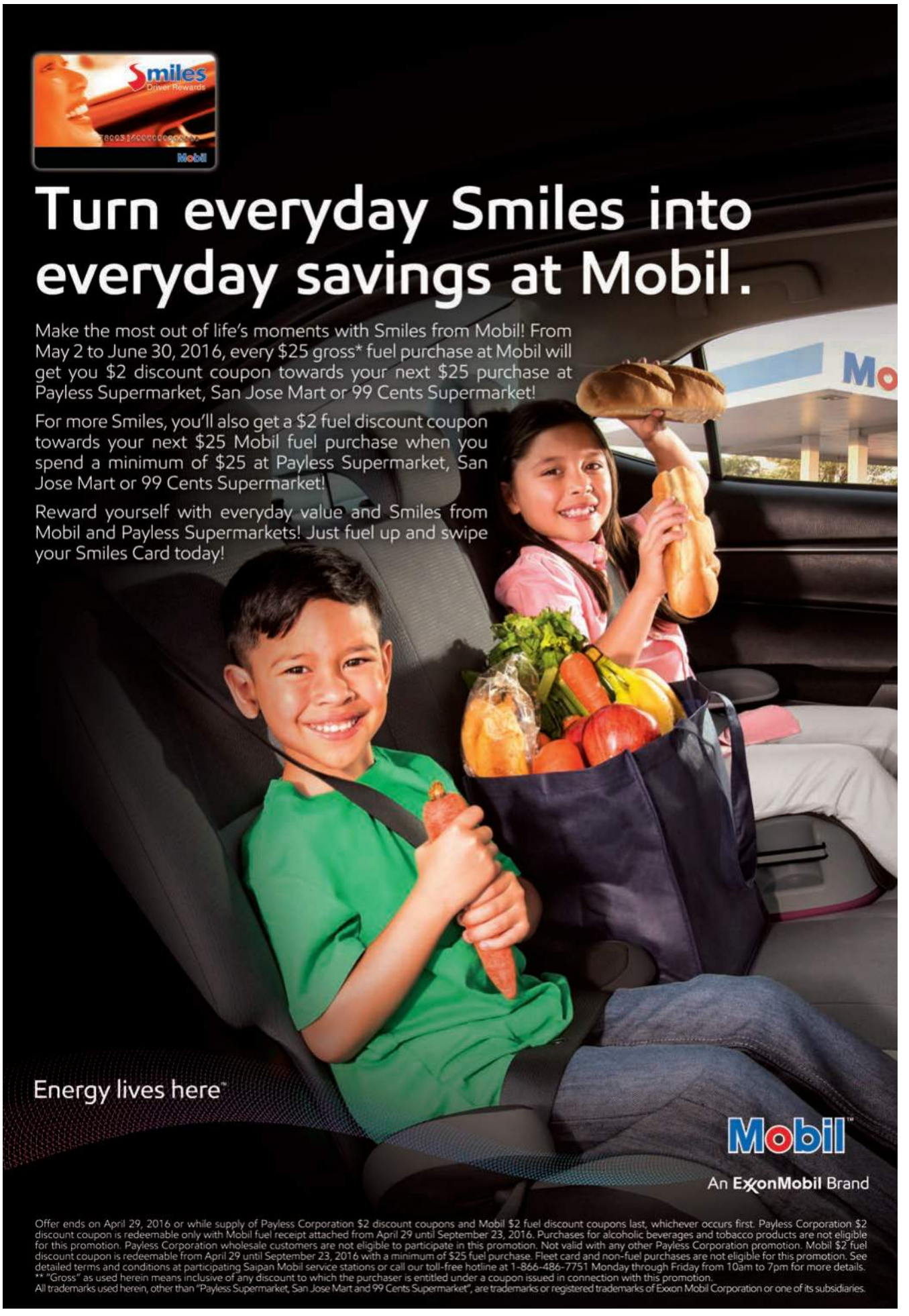
The general membership of Chief Aghurubw Foundation recently elected its officers including Pedro R. Deleon Guerrero (president), Felix Rabauliman (vice president), Tricia Taitano (secretary), and Arlene Billy Cholymay (treasurer).

Elected to the Board of Directors were Antonio R. Rasiang, Isidro Seman, and Donald C. Barcinas.

Jose R. Lifoifoi, Herman R. Deleon Guerrero, Sen. Sixto Igisomar, Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro, Carolinian Affairs Office executive assistant John Tagabuel, Lino Olopai, Jesus Elameto, and Jose Limes were selected as advisors to the Chief Aghurubw Foundation.

CAF welcomes any indigenous persons of the Northern Marianas to be member of the foundation.

For further information on CAF, please contact Tricia Taitano at 287-7333 or email at trictai71@gmail.com. ***(PR)***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Chamolinian non-profit group gets shot in arm

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Non-profit group Chamolinian Cultural Inc. received a $5,000 donation from Bridge Capital with the money set to be used to support their various projects of promoting and preserving the Chamorro and Carolinian cultures.

Carolinian traditional voyagers, led by navigator John Lalogo, along with Gordon Marciano and Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), accepted the ceremonial check from Bridge Capital vice president Vincent Bidez and business development manager Joe Guerrero.

Bridge Capital vice president Vincent Bidez, second right, and business development manager Joe Guerrero, third right, present the ceremonial check to the traditional voyagers of Satawal, Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), right, and Gordon Marciano, left. The money is for the non-profit group Chamolinian Cultural Inc.

JON PEREZ

Guerrero said the donation is just part of Bridge Capital's commitment to further help in the promotion of the Chamolinian culture like the traditional way of navigating and sailing the seas.

"The money will be used in promoting the group's projects like learning the skill of the traditional voyaging. Navigating the oceans is part of the education and learning our culture," said Guerrero.

"This is just a seed of starting a program to teach the way our ancestors sail the seas. This is just a small part of our efforts to make this happen," he added.

Lalogo, who is among the 15 master navigators in Satawal Island, including the son of the legendary Pius Mau Piailug Sesario Sewralur, welcomed the donation as it would help them in keeping the tradition alive.

"There are only 15 of us left in Satawal and we would like to share our knowledge to others who wanted to learn and keep the tradition," said Lalogo, who was part of a 16-member crew that arrived Tuesday afternoon aboard two Micronesian-style, single-hull canoes.

Their group was a bit delayed after encountering bad weather one day in their journey from Satawal to Saipan. "The mast broke but luckily we bought a spare so we just fixed it. We had no more problems after that," said Lalogo.

Sewralur and his crew aboard the Polynesian double-hulled voyaging canoe *Alingano Maisu* arrived on May 7 from Palau. He along with the second batch of master navigators led by Lalogo will attend the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts, which opens on Sunday in Guam.

Seven-year-old Dylan—Sewralur's son—is the *Maisu*'s youngest crewmember that also includes Rodney Kazuma and Murais Sebangol of Palau, Satawal's Miano Sowraenpiy and Albno Esoailug, Norman Taweli-mai of Ifalik, American Aylie Baker, and Japanese Kazuyo Hayashi and Osamu Kasuge.

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AGE (years)
Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.
REAR-FACING CAR SEAT
Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats: Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing. Convertible and 3-in-1 car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.
FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT
Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness.
BOOSTER SEAT
Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.
SEATBELT
Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snug across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.
DESCRIPTION (RESTRAINT TYPE)
A REAR-FACING CAR SEAT is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and in a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child's fragile neck and spinal cord.
A FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT has a harness and tether that limits your child's forward movement during a crash.
A BOOSTER SEAT positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger parts of your child's body.
A SEAT BELT should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.
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Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 | Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

INVITATION TO BID

The Commonwealth Development Authority will put up for sale, its 2005 Toyota Echo located at its SAIPAN OFFICE. The sell will be made by competitive sealed bids. Minimum bid acceptable for the vehicle is $2,500 and bids should be submitted by 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 17, 2016 at the First Floor, CDA Conference Room, CDA Building, Oleai, Saipan. Bid opening and award to the highest bidder will follow right after the 10:00 a.m. closing. All bids will be publicly announced.

Full payment of the bid amount is required before the property can be removed from the CDA Office. Such payment shall be in U.S. Currency or Certified Check made payable on demand in U.S. Currency to the Commonwealth Development Authority. Payment must be received by 3:00 p.m., June 3rd, 2016. Failure to make full payment will cause award to be null and void and the next highest bid will be considered.

CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bids or any of them if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CDA.

The vehicle will be sold AS IS and without warranty. Inspection of the vehicle is recommended and may be arranged with Mr. Oscar Camacho contact no. 234-6245 ext.306 any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on weekdays except holidays. Interested bidders are asked to pick up a bid form at the CDA office.

VEHICLE SPECIFICATION

MAKE:	TOYOTA
MODEL:	Echo
COLOR:	Gray
YEAR:	2005
MECHANICAL:	4 Cylinder/Automatic/Power Steering and Power Brakes Manual Window
MILEAGE:	73,955
OTHER FEATURES:	Air Condition AM/FM Radio/CD
CONDITION:	Fair

/s/ **MANUEL A. SABLAN**
Executive Director

Sablan, Judiciary fortifying Drug Court program

Over seven months after the signing of the Drug Court Act of 2015 in October, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres appointed Yvette Sablan, who previously worked for Salem Oregon's Marion County Health Department and served for Salem County's District Attorney's office for Victim Assistance, as the Special Assistant for Drug Abuse and Rehabilitation Program.

Sablan received her bachelor's degree in Social & Behavioral Studies at George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon, and her Associate's on Criminal Justice at Chemeketa Community College before returning to Saipan in April.

With the newly established Drug Court, the Special Assistant for Drug Abuse and Rehabilitation position was created to coordinate a program developed in collaboration with the newly installed CNMI Drug Court to serve individuals who choose to participate in a treatment program.

In response to increasing drug crimes in the CNMI, the Drug Court Act became the CNMI's first official mandate on the war on drugs.

With the support of the NMI Judiciary and the District Court, the law incorporates drug dependency treatment with continuous judicial supervision for qualifying defendants, for both adults and juveniles, and would provide for the rehabilitation of those individuals suffering from addiction while ensuring that the community remains protected.

According to Sablan, "the program gives our people the opportunity to volunteer in a treatment program instead of imprisonment and they are therefore referred to as participants rather than offenders."

Referring to the specialized court's creative blend of treatment and sanctioned alternatives to effectively address offender behavior, rehabilitation, and the safety of our community, eligible drug court participants are assigned to a court case manager and are encouraged and strictly guided through phases of treatment, in addition to trainings on life skills. "The birth of this program provided our governor the opportunity to finally put his vision into place and without hesitation; he took the lead and designated a refuge in the Northern part of the island to be used as a residential, rehabilitative center. As his special assistant, alongside the Drug Court and treatment providers, we'll work to develop and implement a treatment program that would maximize the use of the facility," she said.

Since joining the efforts to combat drug crimes and addiction, Sablan says that meetings with Drug Court Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, the Community Guidance Center, and nonprofit organizations have been productive.

"Together with the governor, we all recognize the cries of our people for help, not just by the addicted individuals, but by families and friends as well," she said.

Sablan adds that although the Drug Court is new to the CNMI judicial system and treatment providers have to familiarize themselves with a newly established program, "the step taken here is undoubtedly and inarguably a huge step toward addressing the outcries of substance abuse, we have all taken into consideration that we may encounter the trials and errors as first timers to this program, however, I will comfortably and confidently speak on behalf of everyone involved in this program that we are all driven by a force of compassion and commitment and that the only greatest challenge we face, is to restore hope in our participants; the success and completion of the program will be through their will and choice to regain their independence and to live drug-free," she said. ***(PR)***

21-GUN SALUTE FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Members of the Department of Public Safety's Special Enforcement Action Section prepare for a 21-gun salute during the National Peace Officers Memorial Day ceremony held last Tuesday at the Jose M. Sablan Building in Susupe.

Commonwealth Development Authority
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INVITATION TO BID

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) will put up for sale, its 2002 Nissan Frontier XE located at its ROTA OFFICE. The sell will be made by competitive sealed bids. Minimum bid acceptable for the vehicle is $3,500 and bids should be submitted by 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 17, 2016 at the CDA Office, Tamara & 7 Brothers, Songsong, Rota. Bid opening and award to the highest bidder will follow right after the 10:00 a.m. closing. All bids will be publicly announced.

Full payment of the bid amount is required before the property can be removed from the CDA Office. Such payment shall be in U.S. Currency or Certified Check made payable on demand in U.S. Currency to the Commonwealth Development Authority. Payment must be received by 3:00 p.m., June 17, 2016. Failure to make full payment will cause award to be null and void and the next highest bid will be considered.

CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bids or any of them if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CDA.

The vehicle will be sold AS IS and without warranty. Inspection of the vehicle is recommended and may be arranged with Ms. Nanette Estrada at contact no. 532-9408 any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on weekdays except holidays. Interested bidders are asked to pick up a bid form at the CDA office.

VEHICLE SPECIFICATION

MAKE:	Nissan
MODEL:	Frontier XE
COLOR:	White
YEAR:	2002
MECHANICAL:	6 Cylinder/Automatic/Power Steering and Power Brakes
MILEAGE:	67,699
OTHER FEATURES:	Air Condition – Not working AM/FM Radio Cassette 2 new black tires
CONDITION:	Fair

/s/ **MANUEL A. SABLAN**
Executive Director

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

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EDITORIAL

How to answer the Russians' cheating in sports? Ban them from Rio

They were nicknamed East Germany's Wundermadchen, a juggernaut that scooped up 10 of 12 gold medals in women's swimming for the Soviet satellite at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal. They were also pawns: Some were as young as 11 when East Germany's state-run sports machine fed them steroid drugs as performance enhancers.

Years later, many East German Olympians had to cope with the fallout: infertility, breast cancer, stillbirths, heart conditions and other ailments.

"The worst thing was that I didn't know I was being doped," former East German swimmer Rica Reinisch told a British newspaper in 2005. She was 15 when she won three gold medals at the 1980 Olympics in Moscow. She has endured two stillbirths and an irregular heart condition. "I was lied to and deceived."

It's a tale of national greed and artifice that Russia should heed as it contemplates its fate within the international sports community. The latest allegations, reported by The New York Times:

The onetime director of Russia's anti-doping laboratory says he was part of a state-run doping program engineered to give Russian athletes a decisive edge at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. Athletes were given a concoction of steroids stirred into quaffs of Chivas or vermouth. The program avoided detection with the help of Russian intelligence agents, who swapped athletes' urine samples tainted with performance-enhancing drugs with clean urine samples obtained from the athletes months earlier.

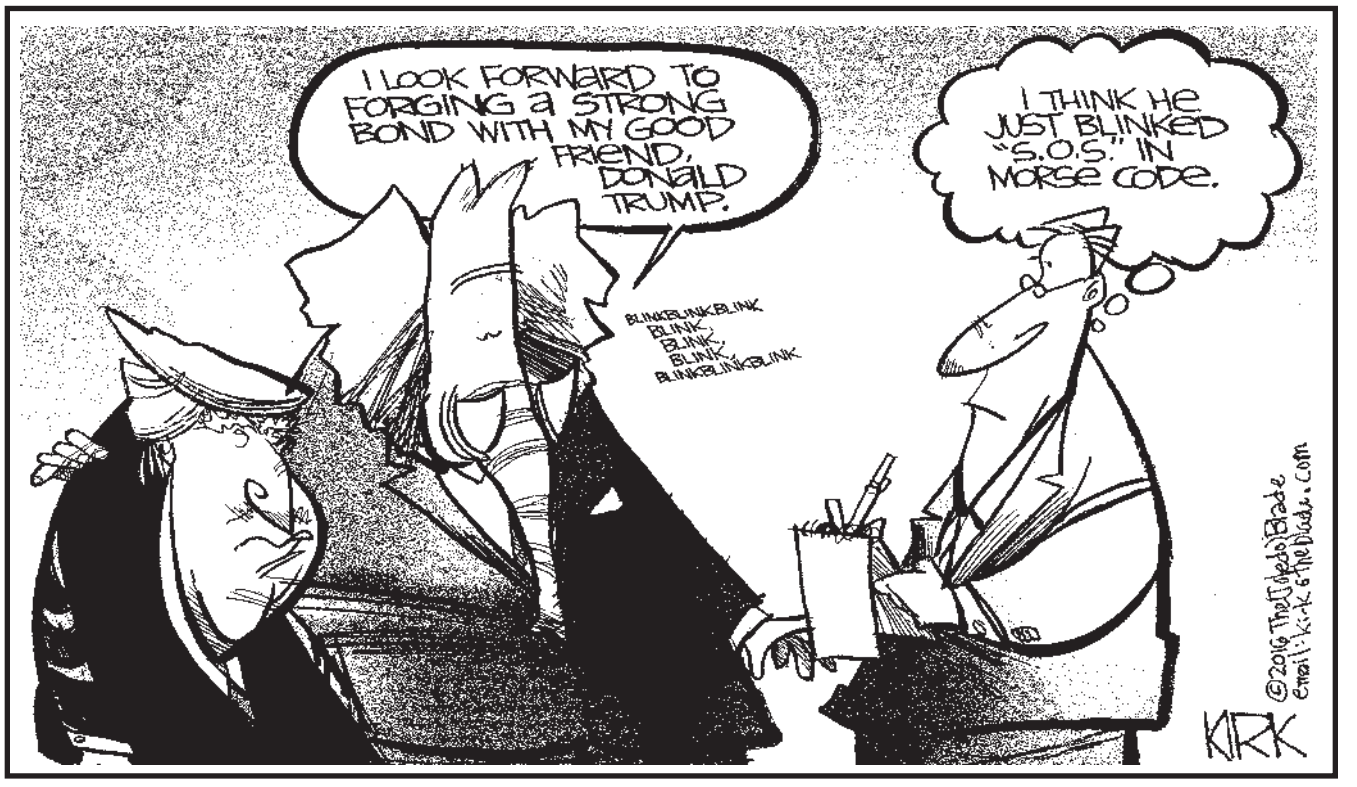
The agents and lab workers made the urine sample exchanges at night at an Olympics testing laboratory, using a small hole cut into a wall near the floor to hide the exchange. They used a small cabinet to hide the hole. The conspirators also found a way to open the tamper-proof specimen bottles so they could get rid of the tainted urine and pour in clean urine.

At the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver, Russia ranked just sixth in the overall medal count — a humiliating result for a country immensely proud of its athletic prowess. Four years later when the world came to Sochi, Russia ranked first in the overall medal count.

The country's anti-doping director, Grigory Rodchenkov, blew the whistle on the program, but not before fleeing to Los Angeles. Predictably, the Kremlin's reaction has been defensive. A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin said of the disclosure, "All this simply looks like slander by a turncoat." The Times quoted a deputy sports minister as saying Russia and the athletes named in the article might file a defamation lawsuit.

The allegations against Russia come just weeks after the World Anti-Doping Agency accused the country of being responsible for more violations than any other nation in 2014. Last November, doping allegations prompted the International Association of Athletics Federations, track and field's governing body, to provisionally suspend Russia from competition. The IAAF hasn't decided whether to reinstate Russia before the Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

See CHEATING on Page 15


I LOOK FORWARD TO FORGING A STRONG BOND WITH MY GOOD FRIEND, DONALD TRUMP.
BLINKBLINKBLINK BLINK. BLINK. BLINK. BLINKBLINKBLINK
I THINK HE JUST BLINKED "S.O.S." IN MORSE CODE.
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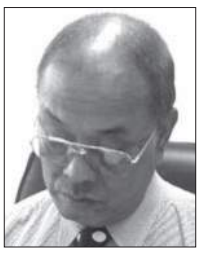
KIRK

Strange flue pandemic

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Like most folks, I also have my moments of darkness when courage fades like objects on a rearview mirror. The growth of corruption is woefully troubling! I'd reset buttons clinging to hope that could get me to the other side, calm and ready to begin anew.

As I reviewed materials recently, there's a flu-like pandemic in the violation of who controls the purse in the disposition of public funds.

Recently, a federal court slammed funding Obamacare ($175 billion) money it said was never appropriated by the U.S. Congress. It returned the power of the purse to Capitol Hill. It doesn't belong in Pennsylvania Avenue. It's the violation of the principle of separation of powers, specifically, control of the purse!

This is exactly the crux of the lawsuit I filed against the NMI in the misappropriation of $400,000 for the Luta Mermaid firm, a Biktot Hokog family business, owner of the MV *Luta*. The authority to appropriate public funds rests with the Legislature not legislative delegations. Must uphold the law of the land—NMI Constitution—sir!

It's an interesting omission of constitutional law that showed kleptocrats ignoring the rule of law. No sir! If you can't fulfill fiduciary duty resign right here and now! You've done nothing but erode public trust in your ill-fated disposition! With incompetency, what's in our future?

The blossoming of the Age of Impunity here had me quizzing if the geniuses on the hill even understand the concept of a republican form of government. Oh, I'm not talking local Republican Party loaded with woefully humiliating toxic performances.

Reverse osmosis: Quick fixes seem the forte of this administration hailing especially from alleged Lt. Gov. Biktot Hokog. He thinks he's done with the $400K illegal disposition he now dispatches his consultant to make an offer for a reverse osmosis water project that would cost some $160 million.

Reportedly, "Robert Toelkes, who said he is a consultant for Hocog but is not under contract…was representing the lieutenant governor's plan to address the water issue on Saipan. He led the presentation.

"Toelkes is also the president of Financial Solutions Group and International Bridge Corp., a company which filed for bankruptcy last year in the midst of its project to rebuild the John F. Kennedy High School in Guam and maintain its facilities for the next 25 years.

"The Capital Projects Finance Authority or CaPFA, which was being proposed for the CNMI to enter into an agreement with, was also involved in the JFK project in Guam. CaPFA described itself as "nominal owner" of the high school.

That the project runs upwards of $160 million requires that we insist on credentials. It means we need records that factually confirm that the company has had a successful record on RO somewhere we could inspect for confirmation. Political connection leaves nothing but suspicion on cronyism and corruption! No Mas!

Rudderless: As a citizen, I had anticipated real leadership to slide into the fold addressing important issues directly related to the quality of life at home. It's all propaganda! Can't find it in family purses, the real gauge of economic growth of sort.

But there seems to be disorientation, uncertainty, and hopelessness taking a ride in speculative information. The energy situation is at the brink of crashing into daily brownouts. Water is equally at the edge of becoming scarce basic need, as projected revenue appears a bit too optimistic and would fall flat on its face. It sounds like roiling temblors that would eventually implode or erupt in the near term.

The troubling issues require Da Big Boys to get off their saddles so we could see eye-to-eye on this score. Maybe they'd even find out we're still here trying to figure out if the wagon could take another trip. The loss of trust and hope has just about ebbed out at this point!

Bombs: Golden age makes ample time to take a slow walk down memory lane just to take a glimpse at changes that have taken place here over the years. On both side of the aisle, there are pluses and minuses that send us probing for real answers.

I call it "stealth cultural bombs"—adopting everything that steadily uprooted the very essence of the indigenous people—food, language, education, sense of community, unity, a sense of self, peace and tranquility, among others. We watched deculturation untangle what's ours while wary of our cultural tradition as the foundation of our existence. We notice too that something's amiss.

The disorientation even had us arguing among ourselves, specifically, to what extend do we embrace neo-colonialism versus a vision of recapturing what's truly ours. Indeed, the torch of leadership has been conveyed to us. We ask: how do we deal with it and where do we begin?

It's a difficult issue that merits full discussion by availing of the right information. Sure, it's a tough cookie given the adaptation of basically everything that isn't reflective of indigenous tradition. There shouldn't be fear however discussing the options ahead.

Be that as it may, the interim answer is in the education of our people.

One family: Mr. Ambrose Bennett wants the lawsuit against the NMI dropped because Luta is family. Not only did he miss the point but ignores the dire need to foster stronger government of laws and governance. To embrace violation of constitutional law isn't my idea of a government of laws, sir! Control of the purse is solely the authority of the legislature!

Interesting your take that obviates the query: What did you teach your students about good citizenship? Doesn't it include abiding by the laws of the NMI? Why would you shirk from this benchmark now?

Hokog's family business is the only beneficiary of taxpayers' tax money, an illegal disposition of public funds! Now, if we are to follow your misguided compassion then it means all pedophiles and child sex abusers should be forgiven because they are family too! Really?

Old tongue, beginner's mind

By ED STEPHENS JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

On March 25 in this space, I provided an updated look at the foreign language audio courses produced by a company called Pimsleur. One thing I mentioned was the March 8 launch of Pimsleur's newest course in Mandarin Chinese. I promised to pass along some notes after I worked through this newest level, so that's what's on the menu today.

This means I'm going to wind up rehashing some stuff that I covered on March 25. After all, it wouldn't be very convenient for readers to have to refer to that past article. Besides, this is a relevant topic in many lives, especially in the Pacific region, but it gets little, if any, mention in the general media.

Anyway, the newest level of Mandarin, Level 5, is, like all of Pimsleur's "levels," a set of 30 audio lessons. Each lesson is about 30 minutes long, and there are some other learning materials in each level as well. I seldom spend much time on the other materials, so I'll just confine my comments to the core material, the 30 main lessons.

For those already familiar with Pimsleur's courses, the good news is that Mandarin Level 5 is faithful to the basic approach that has won Pimsleur so many devoted customers, myself included. There's an easy flow here, and Level 5 struck me as a seamless extension to Level 4.

I will note that, like Level 4 before it, Level 5's vocabulary sometimes takes on some eclectic contexts, so it moves beyond the scope of your standard business-traveler, tourist, and street-level fare. Whether this is seen as a flaw, or as a beauty mark, probably depends on who is looking at it.

By contrast, the first three levels, as I recall, kept their vocabulary in a tighter band of commonly-used words generally taught to Mandarin students. I base that context on what I've been exposed to in various textbooks, trade books, and classes.

Fortunately, no matter which level is at hand, each Pimsleur lesson does a good job keeping the various vocabulary themes confined to their own sandboxes. This allows me to sort the various lessons into folders based on the relevance of their vocabulary.

Sometimes I just review random lessons, even really basic ones that I first heard years ago. For me, nothing is too basic to pay attention to in Mandarin. The only way I'll be able to cultivate a seasoned tongue is to keep a beginner's mind.

This outlook has proven to be a good mesh with Pimsleur. Although I didn't anticipate this factor when I was just starting out, Pimsleur proved to be a good resource not only for breaking new ground, but also for reviewing old territory.

I can't make linear progress in Mandarin. Instead, I just go around in circles, hoping that the center of gravity will drift, however slowly, in the right direction. For me, reviewing isn't a small thing, it's the main thing, especially since I aspire to wear the rough edges off my pronunciation.

One reason that Pimsleur wears well is that it's easy on the ears. The audio production is of excellent quality. It's worth noting that the lessons don't waste time with music and with showboating at the beginning; instead, they serve the material immediately by pulling the listener into a Chinese dialog.

As for the transactional side of things, I have bought both the physical CDs and the MP3 downloads by Pimsleur. I think the MP3s are the better bet since they're cheaper and don't have to be shipped. Pimsleur's pricing and all sorts of product details are available at their website, Pimsleur.com. As for MP3 downloads, a slice of five lessons costs $21.95, a full level of 30 lessons is $119.95, and the entire Level 1 through Level 5 array is $550. Pimsleur also offers a free lesson for each language they teach.

I have found that Pimsleur often offers discount codes on the website's home page, so it's worth stalking for a discount before buying anything.

Many people who are interested in Mandarin Level 5 will be people who, like me, have finished Level 4 and want to continue their learning.

Other people interested in Level 5 will be newcomers who are contemplating getting the advantageous pricing that goes with buying all the levels together. For these folks, if they are entirely new to the Pimsleur approach, I'd suggest trying the free lesson first, just to make sure it meshes with your style of learning.

As for my style of thinking, I still regard the Asia-Pacific region as the most lively and exciting part of the world. This is where the action is, so studying a new language isn't just a chore, it's an adventure.

CHEATING

From Page 14

There's a lot of utility in negative reinforcement — something to keep in mind as the world contemplates how to deal with Russia's penchant for cheating in sport. Now, following Rodchenkov's revelations, a bigger question has emerged. Should Russia's entire sports program be banned from this August's Olympics? We think it should.

Russia rarely responds to finger-wagging. When Russia invaded Georgia in 2008 and turned two breakaway provinces into de facto Russian territory, the U.S. and Europe denounced the Kremlin's behavior as a blatant breach of Georgia's sovereignty. The Kremlin shrugged, and simply fortified its presence in Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

Russia's takeover of the Ukraine's Crimean peninsula and its overt support of pro-Moscow insurgents in eastern Ukraine triggered economic sanctions from the West against Moscow. Yet that hasn't prompted Putin to change his ways. The sanctions, coupled with flagging oil prices, have broadsided the Russian economy. Still, Russia hasn't loosed its hold on Crimea or the eastern provinces of Luhansk and Donetsk.

Banning Russia from the Olympics, however, may just leave a welt large enough to give the Kremlin pause. Russians take sports — particularly Olympic sports — very seriously. The veneration of Russian Olympic heroes approaches beatification. Gymnast Olga Korbut, Greco-Roman wrestler Alexander Karelin, pole-vaulting diva Yelena Isinbayeva, figure skater Yevgeny Plushenko all walk on water. To be barred from the Olympics would deal a harsh blow to Russia and especially to the Kremlin, which relishes the glow of the international spotlight.

Between now and Rio, Russia may seek a reprieve with talk of sweeping reform, with pledges of winnowing out the bad apples. Don't be surprised by a Potemkin show of remorse aimed solely at keeping Moscow's visions of Rio glory alive.

The international sports community shouldn't be swayed. So much is at stake: keeping intact the dreams of athletes who do not cheat, and who sweat blood and tears for their moment in the pool, on the balance beam or on the track; sending a message to the international sports community that giving in to the lure of performance-enhancing drugs will set in motion harsh consequences; and reminding Russia that it won't achieve the spotlight it so dearly covets through subterfuge.

2016 Chicago Tribune

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hanging yourself by hating

The letter on Hang-em high really caught my attention given I had just wrote something about the issue that was totally the opposite perspective, which is why this section calls for "Opinions" not facts. Well God gave us all the ability to form opinions but that doesn't make them right or best. Now if the author and the complainant in the lawsuit were gods they would know the lieutenant governor was not intending to make sure the money was paid back but they are not gods so they formed opinions that some people even agree with. The only problem I see with the loan of $400,000 is that it was not transparent enough for those who just don't want to be open minded enough to give the lieutenant governor and Rota a chance for a lending hand.

If the author or my critics had offered a real solution to helping the people of Rota with the MV *Luta* or some other form of transportation for their goods and products I could half way understand their argument against the loan. But as usually they are complaining flies on the wall looking for something to land on and nothing to offer that can help. If this was some years later and the loan had not been repaid I would even join the lawsuit but to assume people are crooks and blasting them with assumptions before the fact is wrong. The author of the letter and the complainant in the lawsuit never gave the governor, lieutenant governor, and Finance secretary a chance to live up to the agreement just making assumptions that are clearly not supported by facts.

Just because it was the lieutenant governor's family everyone is assuming the ugly and the worst but I beg to ask who if not them and when if not now is going to help the people of Rota? It is desperate times for Rota and they had to resort to desperate methods to avoid a "Political Football Game" that could end with the MV *Luta* not getting the $400K that was needed. No one is running a scam for the money and I would like to know where the complainant in the lawsuit and the author have been if they don't know how desperate the times are on Rota? Do they know the price and cost of living on Rota? To bring up a lawsuit before they had a chance to repay the loan is a pure act of insensitive heartlessness with no compassion for the people of Rota. Please give Rota a chance to repay the money before you start condemning the governor, lieutenant governor, and the Finance secretary as they are all good and honorable people. I'm sure they didn't want this to become a Political Football but the "haters" will always find something and a way to complain.

I can feel the apprehension of the complainant and the author because we have experienced so much corruption over the past decade that they are apprehensive about everything—in other word they are affected by paranoia. As for the allegations: 1. It was a matter of public knowledge, which is how the complainant found out about the loan—not guilty. 2. They had a fiduciary duty to help the people of Rota that everyone knows are in a desperate emergency mode—not guilty. 3 & 4. It is well within the job description and "purpose" of the governor, lieutenant governor, and Finance secretary to identify and use funding to help the people as the MV *Luta* is meant to improve the quality of life for all people living on Rota—not guilty. 5. No one knows what documents the complainant wanted but it was documented that's how he knew—not guilty. 6. The issue was not a matter for the Rota delegation as this was the state's or Commonwealth's money, not Rota's—not guilty. As for the repayment plan, this is all new and I'm sure they need to see how the revenues are going to come in before establishing a definite payment plan, which is why they are asking for your patients. The lieutenant governor's family is good for Rota so please stop hating the lieutenant governor and his family for working together and being entrepreneurs and give the people of Rota a chance. Stop hanging yourself with assertions driven by hate and paranoia that can be proven wrong over time! If the Legislature turns it into a free transportation subsidy the hatters will really look stupid and I hope they will if it comes to that.

PS: A clarification note for my critics: I stopped hating from the sidelines (it didn't work) and started trying to work with these people, something my critics need to try. I left out a nine in my number that should have read $997 million, which is only $3 million from being $1 billion—duh! It was my mistake on the number and not knowing the author actually used the name Rotard so please forgive me for being human and not as perfect as my critics in knowing the source of the name!

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman

Kudos to GPPC

GPPC has graciously dredged the boat ramp on the north side of Sugar Dock during the past few weeks. You can easily see how much material was removed as you drive along Beach Road. Why was this necessary? It's because the currents on the west side of Saipan largely run north to south along the shore causing the sand to build up against the north side of the dock and making it impossible to launch or recover boats at the ramp. Left as it is, this sand removal will always need to be done. It was an expense born by GPPC this time and I'm grateful. Otherwise, we, the public, have to cover the cost each time the dredging is required.

Consider this alternative: Sugar Dock is in desperate need of rebuilding both for the sake of safety and its continued use by the public and tourists alike. Mr. Max Aguon, who has been the volunteer caretaker for this area for years, would like to see the dock restored for the reasons mentioned above. When the dock is repaired (and we hope that's in the very near future!), why not build another boat ramp, but this time, on the south side of Sugar Dock. Done this way, the south boat ramp will remain useable 12 months a year. And, in the meantime, the north boat ramp will become clogged with sand to become the perfect beach for families with newborn infants and the very young!

Just a thought. Check with Max on his expert point of view. And enjoy our beaches.

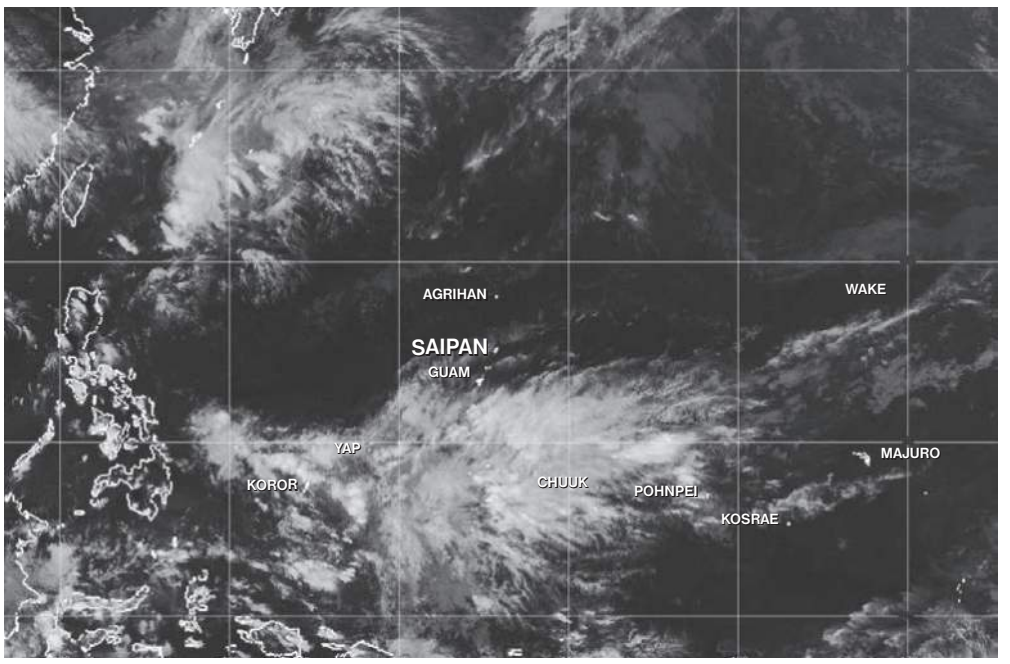
Gary A. Liddle
Via email

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º	▲88º ▼77º	▲88º ▼77º

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging surface winds south of a stationary front near Okinawa are causing cloudiness and patchy showers northwest of a line from 22N130E to 25N135E. Converging trade winds along with divergent flow aloft are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Koror and Yap mainly between 6N and 11N from 130E to 139E in large areas south of Guam between 11N and the equator from 139E to 146E and over northwest parts of Chuuk state between 11N and 5N from 146E to 152E. A shear line north of Pohnpei stretches northeastward from 8N154E to about 11N165E with scattered showers and a few thunderstorm along and up to 80 miles northwest of the shear line. A trade-wind trough extends northeastward between Pohnpei and Kosrae from 5N159E to 7N165E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are within 40 miles of the trough.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲89	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲70	▼55
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼55
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼78
Honolulu	Showers	▲85	▼73
London	Cloudy	▲69	▼55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼57
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼55
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼60
Paris	Showers	▲69	▼55
Pusan	Sunny	▲78	▼56
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼56
Salem	Showers	▲59	▼44
San Francisco	Windy	▲64	▼51
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼56
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲71	▼58
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲68	▼53

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:44 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
7:12 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
2:17 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
8:47 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Sunday	5:47 AM	6:41 PM
Monday	5:47 AM	6:41 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:21 PM	4:34 AM
Saturday	6:10 PM	5:15 AM
Sunday	6:59 PM	5:57 AM
Monday	7:49 PM	6:43 AM
Tuesday	8:40 PM	7:31 AM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

US Commercial Service offers free exporting seminar

The U.S. Commercial Service, with sponsorship from the CNMI Small Business Development Center, the Guam Visitor's Bureau, and the Northern Marianas College, will be offering a free export training seminar from 3:30pm to 5:30pm on May 23 at the Northern Marianas College Campus Room D-1.

This free exporting seminar is also being supported by the Hawaii Pacific District Export Council, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the CNMI Department of Commerce, the Commonwealth Development Authority, and Bridge Investment Group in order to increase awareness of exporting opportunities throughout the world, but more specifically China.

The "Export 101" seminar will be presented by U.S. Commercial Assistant, Andrea Shen. Shen is a commercial assistant with the Foreign Commercial Service Office at the U.S. Consulate in Shenyang, China. The seminar will focus primarily on product or service exportation from the CNMI to China. Highlights of discussion will include the rules and regulations of exporting food/beverage products to China, product preparation prior to exportation, available resources to assist in seeking qualified international buyers, as well as networking and communication strategies when seeking potential customers. Shen will also be available to assist new and existing companies explore how the U.S. Commercial Services offices throughout China (and other countries) can help tourism companies market their tour related businesses.

"Both Casey Jeszenka, (of the Pacific Islands SBDC Network), and myself have been working tirelessly to focus U.S. Commerce attention in Guam and the CNMI for the last four years. We have had a couple visits by U.S. Commercial Service's John Holman and Steve Green to the islands and we are hoping with Andrea's visit, more frequent and scheduled visits can occur in the future. If you have not been to a U.S. Commercial Service Seminar and you are in business, I can't possibly over emphasize how important it is for you to attend this seminar. Everyone who has attended in the past leaves in awe of the vast opportunities offered for free by the U.S. government that not everyone knows about. This seminar will give you the insight and the reassurance that you can be a successful U.S. exporter," said Phillip Mendiola-Long.

Mendiola-Long is a District Export Council Member appointed by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker. Mendiola-Long is serving is second term on the Hawaii Pacific District Export Council.

A fantastic opportunity is up for grabs for potential exporters who are interested in exporting their products or services. In addition, those who are currently exporting their product or service can learn how U.S. Commercial service can assist in expanding their market. This is an informative seminar; everyone is encouraged to attend.

The Export 101 seminar will be held on Monday, May 23, 2016 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm at the Saipan Northern Marianas College Campus, Room D1. To register, log on to http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com or contact the CNMI SBDC Office at (670) 664-3018 or the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at (670) 234-7150. Seating is limited so advance registration is highly recommended. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

NMC's 36th Commencement Exercise will stream live online

Family and friends who are off-island or who are not able to attend the Northern Marianas College's 36th Commencement Exercise in person can watch the event live online. The ceremony will be streamed live at the following site: http://www.marianas.edu/nmclivetv/

The live stream will begin at approximately 4:30pm (Chamorro Standard Time or CHST) on Saturday, May 21, 2016 and will end at about 6:30pm. ***(PR)***

KagHS hosts US Air Force band on May 29

Kagman High School will be hosting the United States Air Force Band of the Pacific on Sunday afternoon, 4pm, May 29. This is a free concert open to the community as we celebrate Memorial Day weekend with wonderful music. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of '81 meeting on May 27

The Marianas High School Class of 1981 will be holding a meeting next Friday, May 27, 5:30pm at the Oleai Pavilion next to the Oleai Beach Club.

All MHS Class of 1981 are encouraged to attend the meeting.

For more information, please contact Donald San Nicolas at 285-8064. ***(PR)***

SSHS PTSA meeting on May 26

Saipan Southern High School will have a Parent-Teacher-Student Association meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2016, starting at 5:45pm in the school cafeteria.

Everyone is invited to participate and receive updates on the school year and PTSA activities. Following the brief meeting, there will be mini workshop sessions that will provide valuable information on cyberbullying, parenting, and other relevant topics.

For more information, call SSHS at 664-4000 or Glenna Sakisat-Palacios Reyes, SSHS PTSA president, at 483-3278. Or you can find us on facebook.com/mantaptsa. ***(PR)***

CCA meeting reset to May 24

The regular meeting of the Commonwealth Cancer Association's Board of Directors originally scheduled for last May 17, 3pm at the CCA Conference Room has been rescheduled to 3pm on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at the same location. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Bordallo: B-52 incident reminder of dangers military personnel go through

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo today issued the following statement on reports of a B-52 incident at Andersen Air Force Base.

"Today's incident is a reminder of the danger our men and women in uniform put themselves in every single day whether flying a mission or for training. I'm glad by the initial reports that the crew of the B-52 is ok. I appreciate the close collaboration and quick response and efforts of local and federal first responders to put out the fire and handle the environmental impacts. It's important that the coordination be seamless so the first responders can save lives. I will be in touch with Andersen AFB leadership to get a better understanding of what led to this incident, and I stand ready to support Andersen AFB." ***(PR)***

Prayer to St. Rita
ST. RITA
Wife, Mother, Widow, Nun
O Holy Patroness of those in need, St. Rita, whose pleadings before thy Divine Lord are almost irresistible, who for thy lavishness in granting favors hast been called the Advocate of the Hopeless and even of the Impossible; St. Rita, so humble, so pure, so mortified, so patient and of such compassionate love for thy Crucified Jesus that thou couldst obtain from Him whatsoever thou askest, on account of which all confidently have recourse to thee, expecting, if not always relief, at least comfort; be propitious to our petition, showing thy power with God on behalf of thy suppliant; be lavish to us, as thou hast been in so many wonderful cases, for the greater glory of God, for the spreading of thine own devotion, and for the consolation of those who trust in thee. We promise, if our petition is granted, to glorify thee by making known thy favor, to bless and sing thy praises forever. Relying then upon thy merits and power before the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we pray thee that (here mention your request).
Feast Day: May 22
Patron Saint of: Hopeless cases, victims of abuse and widows.
St. Rita was born in Umbria, Italy, about the year 1386, and died at Cascia, in the year 1456. Being the daughter of parents who were advanced in years, she met with much opposition when she let it be known of her intention of becoming a nun. Yielding to her parents desires, she married a cruel man. After converting him from his wicked ways, he was murdered by criminals. Left alone in the world, she applied several times for admissions into the Augustinian convent in Cascia.
Every application was refused, and God Himself cleared away all obstacles and she entered the convent, made her profession and lived the life of a holy and devout religious for forty-two years, "a shining example of every Christian virtue, pure as a lily, simple as a dove, and obedient as an angel." That "God is wonderful in His saints" is easily proven in the life of St. Rita.
On one occasion Rita requested a rose to be brought to her from her garden at Porena in the middle of winter. The rose was found in full bloom. At another time, she asked for a fig, and the same was found.
The reports of these wonders spread far and wide and people flocked to the convent from all parts of the world, only to receive in return for their faith in God through the prayers of Rita many spiritual and earthly favors. Because of the great number of miracles made possible by St. Rita, she is often called "The Saint of the Impossible."

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
TSA RECAPITALIZATION PROGRAM
EXPLOSIVE DETECTION SYSTEMS REPLACEMENT
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-006-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the removal and replacement of the U.S. Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Explosive Detection System (EDS) equipment at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport

The project is being funded by TSA. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, June 3, 2016, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (35 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) – (25 points);
3. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
4. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time - (15 points); and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points)

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, JUNE 17, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:

Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: May 13, 2016

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

WIC WOMEN • INFANTS • CHILDREN

ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Application for Tinian Vendors only.

Interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building #N-25 starting May 6, 2016 through May 20, 2016 (Monday to Friday) or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program office no later than 4:00 p.m., May 20, 2016.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4066, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or by facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Esther L. Muna
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Erin Angela Camacho
WIC Program Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-ITB-16-013

SALE AND REMOVAL OF SCRAP MATERIALS FROM THE WAREHOUSE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is inviting interested individuals and firms to bid on CUC Scrap materials located in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained at no charge upon registration at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and One (1) copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-ITB-16-013, CUC Sale & Removal of Scrap Materials from the Warehouse"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 26, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders must sign a Waiver of Liability, removing CUC's liability from claims resulting from violations relating to the removal and disposal of the scrap materials. CUC shall transfer and assign the scrap materials to the prospective bidder in an **"As is, Where is"** condition. By accepting the transfer and assignment, the bidder acknowledges that CUC has made no representation or warranties of the merchantability, quality, fitness, and condition of the scrap materials.

The scrap materials may be inspected by appointment only, between the hours of 9:00 AM thru 3:00 PM Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, by contacting CUC Warehouse Division at telephone no. 322-6585.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2016, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Administrative Technician for Procurement via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-015

NMC 1.0 MG WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Northern Marianas College (NMC) 1.0 Million Gallon Water Tank Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of installation of a new transmission line between the new NMC tank and existing Kannat Tabla tank; removal of existing fiberglass tanks, 1.0 Million Gallon steel tank, yard piping, concrete vaults, and all other appurtenances at the NMC tank site; additional boring, design and construction of the new NMC 1.0 Million Gallon pre-stressed concrete water tank and foundation; installation of new NMC water tank piping, valve vaults, control valves, and other appurtenances; installation of a new booster pump (triplex system) with back-up generator at the NMC tank site; construction of a new chlorination station at the NMC tank site; construction of a new perimeter security fencing and facility lighting at NMC tank site; and restoration of existing asphalt concrete road. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 420 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **May 31, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-015, Northern Marianas College (NMC) 1.0 Million Gallon Water Tank Replacement** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) June 21, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 1, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Interior provides $3M in energy grants to US territories

WASHINGTON, D.C.— U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina approved $3.1 million in grant funding for energy improvements to help reduce dependence on imported fuel oil in the U.S. territories of American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The grants are provided through the Empowering Insular Communities Program from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA).

"We are very excited that the Manu'a Islands in American Samoa will soon be 100 percent powered by renewable energy," said Assistant Secretary Kia'aina. "We also recognize that the territories will need to continue to rely on some combination of fossil fuels and renewable energy sources. These grants are creating efficiencies that will reduce the cost of energy for the territories."

Empowering Insular Communities grants to be awarded this week are as follow:

■ **American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA)** - $368,468 for Manu'a Islands Demand Side Management Program and $927,500 for Supplemental Battery Storage - A major strategy of the American Samoa Energy Action Plan is for all three Manu'a Islands to obtain 100 percent of their electrical power from renewable sources. Under current projects, Ofu and Olosega will reach 85 percent and Ta'u will reach 90 percent by October of this year. After careful design and feasibility considerations, leading micro-grid experts have proposed two final projects to help Manu'a attain energy sovereignty: 1) Demand-side efficiency measures and 2) 1.5 MWh of additional battery storage on Ta'u. Reducing the overall demand for electricity is the most cost effective way of reaching the goal of 100 percent. All sodium vapor streetlights will be converted to LED lights, reducing energy consumption by half. LED lighting will also replace less-efficient lighting sources in all commercial structures and schools to include additional energy retro-fits. In all, these energy conservation measures are estimated to reduce demand for electricity by 15 percent in all three islands.

Through ongoing construction, ASPA will install 1.4 MW of solar panels and 4.2 MWh of Tesla batteries on Ta'u. The project will offset approximately 90% of diesel consumption in Ta'u. The additional battery storage, coupled with two 100-kW wind turbines (which will be funded locally) will bring the total renewable energy capacity to 100% and bring Manu'a to its self-sufficient energy goal.

■ **Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC)** - $649,450 for Pre-Pay Meters Project in Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands - Funds will be used to purchase and install 1,550 pre-pay meters in support of the CNMI Strategic Energy Plan which identifies that energy consumption typically drops 15-20 percent shortly after a prepaid meter is installed. Next generation pre-pay meters will be installed in residential homes allowing customers to recharge by Internet or telephone. Through this project a total of 21 percent of residential accounts will have been converted to pre-pay and will result in an estimated combined savings to customers of $12,000 per month. The anticipated savings to the 7 percent of government agencies to be converted to pre-pay metering will be $61,566 per month.

■ **Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Division of Agriculture** - $330,128 for Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Power System for Kagman Agricultural Water Well Stations - Funds will be used to install five PV systems with battery storage at separate Kagman Water Well Stations replacing current grid hook-ups. The water wells supply water to over 50 farm plots in the Kagman area that are managed by the Division of Agriculture. More than 75 percent of the island's vegetable and fruit harvest comes from the Kagman farm plots and represents about 10 percent of the annual agricultural production of the territory. The solar energy generated from these PV systems will eliminate the division's annual electric bill of $90,000.

■ **U.S. Virgin Islands Schneider Regional Medical Center, St. Thomas** - $380,752 to Modernize the Hospital's Chiller Plant by replacing three existing chillers with high efficiency models. The new high-efficiency chillers are essential to provide air conditioning to the hospital and will result in an estimated 25 percent reduction in electricity consumption for the hospital.

■ **Virgin Islands Energy Office** - $310,000 for Energy Efficiency Market Potential Project and $200,000 to Create Sustainable Market Opportunities for Distributed Generation Market Structure. The funds will provide for two priority projects under the U.S. Virgin Islands Energy Roadmap. The first is to establish benchmarks and baselines to track building energy usage and identify high-impact energy conservation measures. Funding will be used to conduct investment-grade audits in a representative sample of buildings (commercial, hotel, residential, etc.) and review different approaches to encourage investment in efficiency measures.

The funding will also provide for a grid integration study, an economic analysis of the return on investment for distributed solar generation, and training for policymakers on different approaches to solar energy as they develop legislation, regulations, and agency operating procedures to implement a comprehensive energy policy for the territory. This will supplement work previously carried out in the territory under the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Development in Island Nations pilot project.

The Secretary of the Interior is responsible for coordinating federal policy with respect to the territories of the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance provided to the freely associated states of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association. On behalf of the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas executes these responsibilities through the Office of Insular Affairs whose mission is to foster economic opportunities, promote government efficiency, and improve the quality of life for the people of the insular areas. ***(PR)***

YOU WOULDN'T EAT 22 PACKS OF SUGAR*. WHY ARE YOU DRINKING THEM?
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Extra calories from the added sugar may lead to obesity, type 2 diabetes and heart disease.[1,2]
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CNMI COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CONTROL PROGRAM

For more information in the CNMI, please contact the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at (670) 236-8727/28

This Ad was brought to you by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Comprehensive Cancer Control Program under the Division of Public Health Non Communicable Disease Bureau with 100% federal funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

1. Woodward-Lopez G, Kao J, Ritchie L. To what extent have sweetened beverages contributed to the obesity epidemic? Public Health Nutrition. Sep 23, 2010:1-11.
2. Johnson R, et al. Dietary Sugars Intake and Cardiovascular Health: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association. Journal of the American Heart Association 2009, vol. 120, pp. 1011-1020.

June 1, 2013

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

National Defense Authorization Act passes House

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday announced that the U.S. House of Representatives has passed H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 by a vote of 277 yeas to 147 noes. The bill includes the two amendments offered by Congresswoman Bordallo that were made in order by the House Rules Committee last night. These include Congresswoman Bordallo's amendment for war claims for the survivors of the occupation of Guam and her amendment to give USCIS flexibility renewing H-2B visa renewals on Guam. The bill includes provisions sponsored by Congresswoman Bordallo during markup by the House Armed Services Committee. The bill will be reconciled with the Senate's version of the FY17 NDAA during a Conference Committee later this year.

H.R. 4909 includes the full text of H.R. 44, as modified, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act. Congresswoman Bordallo testified before the House Rules Committee to offer the amendment, which was made in order last night. The amendment would implement recommendations of the Guam War Claims Review Commission and authorize the payment of claims for the survivors of the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II as well as the descendants of those who died as a result of the occupation. The amendment does not add to federal spending and utilizes a budgetary offset of additional section 30 funding above Fiscal Year 2014 levels that is received by Guam for federal personnel stationed on island. This offset was agreed to by local leaders. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote.

H.R. 4909 also includes Congresswoman Bordallo's amendment to give the USCIS flexibility in renewing H-2B visas on Guam. The amendment is needed to ensure an adequate workforce is available on Guam to support the realignment of Marines and Guam's health industry. The amendment was included in en-bloc package 4, which was agreed to by voice vote.

"Today the House of Representatives took another important step towards recognizing the people of Guam who suffered horrible atrocities during World War II. The amendment authorizes claims for the living survivors of the occupation and the descendants of those who died during the occupation, and it does not add any new federal spending. I strongly believe that Congress has the moral obligation to resolve this issue, and I have never stopped advocating to give our survivors the recognition they deserve. I will work with the Senate to keep this provision in the final defense bill when we meet in Conference later this year."

"Further, I am pleased that the House has passed the full FY17 defense bill. While the bill is not perfect, it does provide our servicemembers and families with critical resources to carry out their mission. I am also pleased that the bill includes key provisions important to Guam to move forward with the Marine realignment. This includes my amendment to give the USCIS flexibility in renewing H-2B visas on Guam. The bill also fully authorizes $253 million for military construction projects, further lifts restrictions on civilian infrastructure projects contained in the Office of Economic report, and keeps the DoD accountable to their "net-negative" policy. These are all steps that demonstrate our country's commitment to Guam and the Asia-Pacific region, and I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure that they remain in bill when we reconcile differences with the Senate during Conference Committee." ***(PR)***

Much anticipated bed and breakfast bills introduced in Guam

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—Senator Tina Rose Muna Barnes is looking to bring more opportunities for the local community to participate in Guam's diversifying visitor industry.

The Legislative Committee on Tourism Chairwoman introduced three bills that will further define and strengthen Guam's growing bed and breakfast industry, provide a clear framework for short-term vacation rental business operations, and protect the island's tourism industry by establishing civil penalties while authorizing tax collection agreements with short-term vacation rental websites such as Airbnb and Homestay.

"The PATA Annual Summit is being held right here on our island. The visitor industry leaders, stakeholders, and government officials that are here shared research that shows many travelers are growing more interested in alternative accommodations like B&Bs," Muña Barnes said. "The bills I introduced are the direct result of a great collaboration between the public and private sectors. We made it a point to have the input of our tourism industry officials and our B&B owners. Tourism is diversifying and these measures will allow us to prepare our community and the visitor industry to take advantage of new opportunities while meeting new demands. We want to make sure the industry is given the opportunity to thrive by establishing guidelines to ensure its success."

Muña Barnes' recently introduced bills were drafted based on community input taken from three roundtable discussions held earlier this year. The community and industry stakeholders came together to discuss the merit of the bed and breakfast industry after public concerns over bed and breakfasts that were operating outside of the original intent of the bed and breakfast industry.

"The ultimate goal of these bills is to diversify our tourism industry while doing our utmost to protect the health, safety, and well-being of our visitors and our community. We have to make sure that the required Hotel Occupancy Tax is being collected from transient visitors and owner-proprietors are not putting visitors, their neighbors, and themselves at risk," said Muna Barnes.

The bills were introduced as Bill No. 323-33 (COR), Bill No. 324-33 (COR), and Bill No. 325-33(COR) and are available online at www.guamlegislature.com.

For more information, please contact 472-3455/6. ***(PR)***

Tydingco-Gatewood re-nominated as District Court chief judge

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday announced that President Barack Obama has re-nominated Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood to continue serving as the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court of Guam. Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood was appointed to the U.S. District Court by President George W. Bush. She was confirmed for a 10-year term by the U.S. Senate on August 3, 2006.

"Throughout her judicial career, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has displayed the highest levels of integrity and fidelity to the rule of law. She has been a firm jurist who has served our community with professionalism and an understanding of how her decisions would impact the everyday lives of Guam's residents. As the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court of Guam, Frances has worked to make the court more efficient and responsive to the needs of our community. I commend President Obama for re-nominating her to serve another term as our District Court Chief Judge, and I urge the Senate to act expeditiously to confirm her." ***(PR)***

CIP PROGRAM OFFICE, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
Provisions of Architect and Engineering Services for the 702 CIP Project Management Services RFQ16-GOV-119

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from Architects and Engineers to provide Project Management Services for designated Federally Funded Projects, for FY 2016 – 2017.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Selected Architects and Engineers (Project Managers) will be retained as independent contractors under the General Provision of the Contracting Officer or his designee. Project Managers will act as agents of the expenditure authority on assigned Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) to ensure that identified objectives are achieved within cost, time and legal requirements while maintaining effective stakeholder communications. Selected Project Managers will be retained of a one year contract with an option to renew for an additiional year at the discretion of the Commonwealth. Project Managers include Architects, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineers.

Compensation for Project Managers services will be determined based on the number of assigned projects including payments for appoved staff and expenses. The Commonwealth will negotiate with the selected Project Managers to determine the scope of work and responsibilities. Individuals or firms selected as project managers would be precluded from providing any other services associated with the assigned project(s).

Interested parties may pick up the applicable scope of work (SOW) and submittal requirements at the Office of Capital Improvement Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, beginning May 13, 2016 during working hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – (Monday through Friday, except on holiday). Submittal of all qualifications must precisely follow the submittal requirements identified in the Scope of Work and Submittal Requirements.

Selection of individuals for the provision of services shall be guided by the Commonwealth Department of Finance Division of Procurement & Supply, Procurement Regulations § 7070-30.3-305. To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, and be currently licensed to practice engineering in the CNMI, and must hold a Certificate of Authorization, if applicable.
Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office for budgeting purposes, but will not be considered in the Firm evaluation scores.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330 or the latest version of Standard Forms. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered. Statement of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Past Experience and Performance as a Project Manager – 70%
2. Interview – 30%

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms or with all the firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked "RFQ16-GOV-119", **Project Management Services for the 702 CIP Projects"**. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP, no later than 9:00 a.m., on June 13, 2016. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 9:00 a.m.., ChST, on June 13, 2016 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 13, 2016, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 9:00 a.m.,ChST on June 21, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Ralph DLG. Torres
CNMI, Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

CIP PROGRAM OFFICE, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

INVITATION TO BID
ITB16-GOV-120
Construction of the Tinian Municipal Transfer Station

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) office, are soliciting sealed bids for the **Construction of the Tinian Municipal Transfer Station**, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package is available at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building on Capitol Hill. A $250.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining a package at the CIP Office on Capitol Hill. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid meeting will be held at Mayor's Conference Room on Tinian on June 3, 10:00 a.m. followed by a site visit to the project site. All inquiries regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. Saipan local time on June 8, 2016 to the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Building, Capital Hill, Saipan or via email to esb.cip@gmail.com (Elizabeth Balajadia, P.E., Project Manager) or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared will all prospective contractors.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB16-GOV-120".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, June 17, 2016. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, June 17, 2016, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 17, 2016 and must be received no later 10:00 a.m. than June 28, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m., ChST, June 28, 2016. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will open at 2:00 p.m. Saipan local time, on June 17, 2016.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:
1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Two Hundred Ten (210) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of *(i)* Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) per day, or *(ii)* two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 210 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ **Ralph DLG. Torres**
Governor

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan, Director**
CNMI Procurement & Supply

CNMI's Mock Trial Knights hold their own at Nationals

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Mock Trial Knights gather for their official group portrait at the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Competition held in Boise, Idaho.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Mock Trial Knights scrimmage against Seattle Preparatory Academy, who placed 10th in the nation this year and won the 2014 national title.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Mock Trial Knights gather with the CNMI community at one of the events hosted by Attorney Vince Torres and his family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Mock Trial Knights prepare for their first official round at the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Competition. From left to right: Arron Cushing, Lance Deleon Guerrero, You Jin Jun, and Michael Ortizo.

Mount Carmel School's Mock Trial Knights held their own in competitive rounds at the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Competition held last week in Boise, Idaho. Representing the CNMI, the Knights held their ground against some of the nation's best teams, including previous national champions.

In between scrimmages and competitive rounds, the Knights faced off with three teams that placed in the Top 10 of this year's competition: New Mexico (4th place and 2012 and 2013 national champions), North Carolina (8th place), and Washington (10th place and 2014 national champions). The team also competed against top teams from Maine, California, and Wisconsin.

Advancement and round pairings in the national competition are based on power-matching after Round 1. This means that teams with equivalent win/loss records, ballots, and points face off against each other in their respective power-matched brackets. The fact that Team CNMI went up against so many top teams is a direct reflection of the rigor and strength of Team NMI throughout the competition.

Teacher coach and school president Galvin Deleon Guerrero was very proud of the team. "Despite all the challenges the team faced, they stood toe-to-toe against some very tough opponents and proved that they have what it takes to compete at the national level."

Success despite setback

The team achieved this level of competition despite losing one of its key members the day before the team left the CNMI to the competition. Due to an illness, Jaqueline "Jackie" Doctor, who was set to play dual witness roles, had to be sent on emergency medical referral. Rallying behind their sick teammate, the team stepped up by fielding two substitute players for two different witness roles.

One such player was Justin Ocampo who, as only a freshman straight off the bench, scored the highest points, on average, for the team. On a 10-point scale, Ocampo's average score throughout the competition was 8.2, and he even scored a perfect 10 on one ballot.

Although he scored well, Ocampo was quick to point out how hard it was. As he said, "Most people had a month to prepare, while I had only a week to do that. So, a part of me was scared, but another part of me was determined to do my best for Jackie."

Appreciation

While in Boise, the team was welcomed warmly by the large CNMI community living in the area. Attorney Vince Torres and his family hosted the team on two separate occasions, while the families of Juan Santiago Tenorio and Joe and Cathy Salas led an effort to prepare snacks and refreshments for the team during the competition.

"We are extremely grateful for the love and support that our brothers and sisters from the NMI showed us while we were there," said Deleon Guerrero. He added, "They certainly made us feel at home while away from home."

The team also expressed its appreciation to the companies and organizations that supported them in its preparations for the national competition: DFS T Galleria, J. C. Tenorio Enterprises, Lucky R Corporation, Motion Automotive, SJ Corporation, WIRES, the CNMI Legislature, CNMI Mock Trial Coordinator Sheila Trianni, the Attorney General's Office, the CNMI Judiciary, and the CNMI Public School System and Board of Education.

The Mock Trial Knights earned the right to represent the CNMI at the national competition by winning the local CNMI Mock Trial Competition held earlier this year. The team was coached by attorney coach Joseph Leon Guerrero Taijeron Jr. and teacher coaches Kevin Bautista and Deleon Guerrero. The team included Angelo Gabriel Cardenas Manese, Arron Christopher Cushing, Jaqueline Bernardo Doctor, Jeff Matthew Melchor, Jose Antonio Pan Castro, Justin Gerald Pensader Ocampo, Kimvherly Reyes Dela Cruz, Kiyoun Kim, Lance Vincent Quitugua Deleon Guerrero, Michael Roy Estacio Ortizo, Monica Aira Baysa Usi, Sunghun Ryu, You Jin Jun, and Zeno Camacho Deleon Guerrero, Jr.

Started in 1984, the National High School Mock Trial Competition aims to promote an understanding and appreciation of the American judicial system through academic competitions and other endeavors for students. ***(PR)***

The Mock Trial Knights gather for a photo around Boise, Idaho's famous city sign. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WELLESLEY
W
of the
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Calling All Alumnae
Please contact Janet King
Janet.King@kingattorney.com
(670) 233-1209

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM. Plaintiff, vs. BRIAN D. RICHARDS and REGINA E. MASGA fka REGINA M. RICHARDS, Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 14-0219(R)** **NOTICE OF HEARING ON PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 3, 2016, at 10:30 a.m., a hearing will be held before Judge CAMACHO on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, *Guma Hustisia*, Civic Center, Saipan. Commonwealth or the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of April, 2016.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT/ DEPU TY CLERK

CHARITY R. HODSON (F0487)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 502607 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-1615
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Petitioner Linda Koshiro

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TETSUO KOSHIRO, Deceased.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 15-0150 AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION** **Date: May 31, 2016 Time: 1:30 p.m. Judge: David A. Wiseman**

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE TETSUO KOSHIRO OR HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Linda Koshiro** and **Esther Koshiro**, Co-Administratrices of the Estate of Tetsuo Koshiro, have filed with the Superior Court of theCommonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands a Petition for Final Decree of Distribution. The attorney for Petitioner is **Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition for Final Decree of Distribution is scheduled to be heard on **May 31, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on Saipan. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Dated on 25th day of April, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Deputy Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOR
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES REQUIRED FOR 14 CFR PART 139 CERTIFICATION

CPA-RFP-015-16

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is accepting seals proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (RFP), and other contract provisions, for proposals from individuals, professional firms, companies and/or corporations to provide instructional training services specific to airports pertaining to the requirements imposed by 14 CFR Part 139, and related federal airport and safety policies applicable to airfield operations and Part 139 certificate holders including programs contained in the Airport Certification Manual (ACM). The successful proposer shall conduct instructional programs at the Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) facility, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposals must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands no later than **4:30 PM, FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2016.** Proposals received after this date and time will not be considered and will be returned unopened. One original and three copies of each proposal shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked as 'Confidential' and each envelope must include the RFP number on the outside. It is the sole responsibility of a proposer to submit its proposal or proposals in a timely manner.

A Proposal Package consisting of the Scope of Work and further details is available for pick up at the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. There is no charge for the proposal package.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50, Procurement Rules and Regulations of Title 40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC). Title 40, including Chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: May 13, 2016

Pacific summit to strengthen response to NCDs crisis

NUKU'ALOFA, TONGA/ NOUMEA, New Caledonia—Pacific Islands' leaders and ministers, and officials from regional and global development agencies, will gather in the Kingdom of Tonga from June 20 to 22, 2016 to deliberate on better ways to tackle the region's non-communicable diseases (NCDs) crisis.

NCDs—primarily heart disease, cancers, lung disease and diabetes—are the leading cause of death in the Pacific, with life expectancy declining in some Pacific Island countries as a result of NCD-related premature deaths.

The first ever Pacific NCD Summit is a collaboration between the Government of Tonga and the Pacific Community (SPC), supported by Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the New Zealand Aid Programme, World Bank, World Diabetes Foundation, World Health Organization and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Taking place in Tonga's capital, Nuku'alofa, the high-level summit theme is "Translating Global and Regional Commitments into Local Action".

It will be officially opened by His Majesty King Tupou VI, with a keynote address due to be delivered by UNDP Administrator Helen Clark focusing on the links between NCDs and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

"There's no shortage of declarations, commitments and strategies aimed at addressing NCDs, but with up to 75 per cent of deaths in the Pacific related to NCDs, current efforts just aren't enough," the Pacific Community Director-General, Dr Colin Tukuitonga said.

In addition, there is a significant socio-economic burden placed on many Pacific Island countries and territories that are unable to provide essential medicines and services for preventing and caring for people with NCDs.

"Despite the challenges, we need to ensure that our response is multi-sectoral, and aligned to commitments. This summit aims to present a case for more urgent and collaborative action towards addressing NCDs in the Pacific at the global, regional and national level," the Tonga Minister for Health and acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr Saia Piukala, said.

Among its objectives, the summit will review how Pacific Island countries and territories are implementing their NCD activities aligned with the SDGs and the Samoa Pathway.

The participants will also review progress with the Pacific NCD Roadmap in an effort to accelerate implementation; seek to strengthen current funding arrangements and explore new sources of funding; and create opportunities for South-South collaboration in implementing good practice to address NCDs.

Tonga, as the host nation, has demonstrated strong commitment and leadership in its efforts to address NCDs. Tonga is the first country in the world to develop an NCD strategy (2004), the first in the Pacific to set up a Health Promotion Foundation (2008) and has shown some positive progress in the most recent STEPwise approach to Surveillance (STEPS) survey in 2012, compared to an earlier survey in 2004.

The Pacific NCD Summit will be held at the Fa'onelua Convention Centre in the capital, Nuku'alofa. For more information on the summit, visit http://www.spc.int/en/ncd-summit.html. ***(PR)***

Gone but not forgotten

BENJAMIN VINCENT AYUYU SABLAN

Born on January 02, 1959 on Saipan, sailed to his new life in God's Paradise on Monday, May 16, 2016, at 10:29 p.m. at Guam Memorial Hospital.

Daily mass for the repose is offered at 6:00 am at Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Wake and funeral services will be announced at a later date.

Your thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated.

KIMBERLY CRYSTAL SONGSONG SABLAN AND FAMILY
ANA AYUYU SABLAN, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Pacific Community congratulates Haberkorn for prestigious award

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—The Pacific Community joins the Government of Vanuatu in congratulating Dr. Gerald Haberkorn who was awarded a medal of honor this week by Vanuatu's Head of State, President Baldwin Lonsdale, at the State House in Port Vila.

Haberkorn is a long-serving employee of SPC, having first joined in 1993. He is the current director for the organization's Statistics for Development Division.

"We at the Pacific Community are proud of the tremendous and well deserved recognition awarded to our colleague, Dr. Haberkorn. Indeed it is testament to his incredible work ethic and dedication to serving the people of the Pacific," Pacific Community director general Dr. Colin Tukuitonga said.

The *Vanuatu Daily Post* described Haberkorn as one of the nation's remarkable pioneers and accredited the prestigious honor bestowed for "his work and dedication to serve the people of Vanuatu."

Haberkorn first arrived in Vanuatu in March, 1982 to conduct his PhD research field-work on rural-to-urban migration with the Australian National University.

His work took him to six communities in Paama, and North Pentecost, in Liro and Abwatuntora respectively, to collect extensive work histories on plantations, ships, in town and overseas of all adult men and women.

According to the *Vanuatu Daily Post*, President Lonsdale paid tribute to Haberkorn for having "left your families to come and serve within this nation."

In his thank-you response to Vanuatu's Head of State, Haberkorn reflected on his time at the Vanuatu Planning Office, the mix and magnitude of development challenges confronting the young independent nation, the good working relationships with the resident Australian and New Zealand High Commissions at the time, and the privilege of leading a small team of highly motivated development professionals which culminated in the development of the nation's Third National Development Plan (1992-1996).

"Having the privilege to work with experienced and dedicated colleagues, a supportive director who is now the Minister of Education, excellent political support from the Prime Minister's Office, the then 1st Secretary and current Deputy Prime Minister, Hon. Joe Natuman, was critical in pulling off a plan that was strategic and the product of extensive community consultations, seeking ordinary people's views and aspirations about development," Haberkorn said.

Haberkorn recently announced his retirement and will leave SPC in June. Among the many highlights of his 19 years of service with the organization, Haberkorn helped to rebuild and manage a small and productive demography program between 1993 and 1998, and contributed to the development of the Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy 2011-2020. ***(PR)***

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

Life & Style

Pie-eating competition highlights Taste

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Tony Roma's and 16 other food and beverage vendors, including other members of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, served up dinner and dessert on May 14, 2016, at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden at the American Memorial Park.

Three pie-eating competitions highlighted the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 14.

The event, bringing some of the best of island cuisine and entertainment to American Memorial Park, is held every Saturday evening beginning at 6pm in May as part of the month-long celebration of Tourism Month in the Northern Mariana Islands.

Attacking fresh apple pies from Herman's Modern Bakery, Simon Necesito, Andrew Songsong, and Brian Murphy finished 1st to 3rd, respectively, in the adult heat of the competition.

In the heat for ages 14-17, Luther Lizama, Colin Ramsey, and Lyn Ladringanf inished 1st to 3rd, respectively. Consuming mini pies in the youngest heat for ages 10-13, Conall Hartig, Thomas Benavente, and Christina Kimfinished 1st to 3rd, respectively. All winners received cash prizes.

"The pie-eating competition was exciting for both the participants and the spectators," said MVA Community specialist Ryan Calvo, coordinator of the nightly competitions. "We're looking forward to even greater crowd enthusiasm on the next two nights."

This Saturday's (May 21) Taste of the Marianas will feature the Northern Mariana Islands Bartenders' Association Cocktail Competition beginning at 7pm.

Taste of the Marianas offers international cuisine at affordable prices by 17 hotels, restaurants, and drink vendors; non-stop live entertainment on the main stage; nightly contests on the secondary stage; and arts and crafts sales. Participating vendors are: Coral Ocean Point Resort, D'Elegance, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Furusato Restaurant, Herman's Modern Bakery, Hula Girl, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Mariana Resort & Spa, Matty's BBQ, Sierra's Pearl Shakes, Thai House Restaurant, Tony Roma's/Capricciosa, Tropical Chill, Pacific Trading Co., Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc., and Northern Marianas Bartenders Association. ***(PR)***

Ana Glushko Academy performs at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden.

Fiesta Resort & Spa and 16 other food and beverage vendors joined the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden.

A guest troupe from Beijing China performs at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden.

Polynesian dance troupe Pua Hinano performs at the 18th AnnualTaste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden.

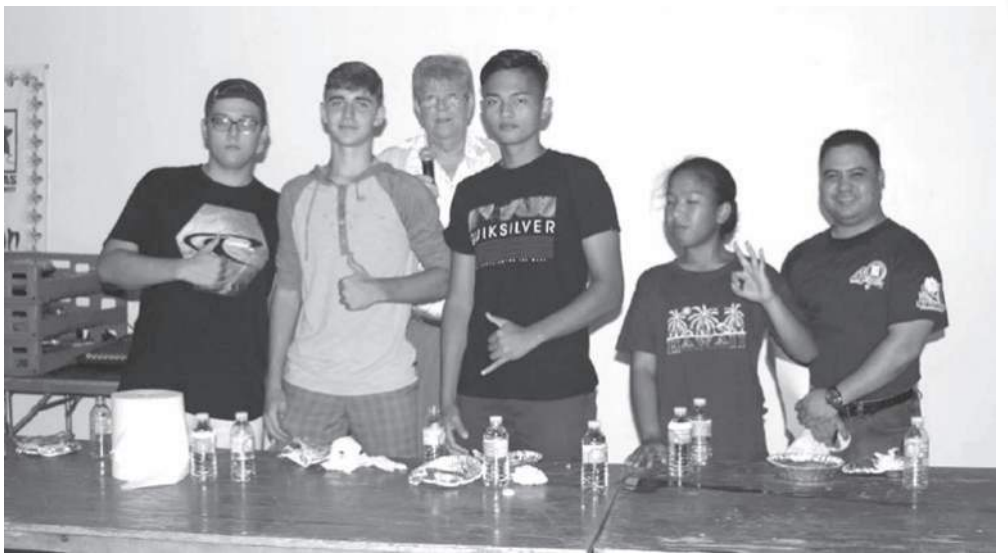
D'Elegance Restaurant and 16 other food and beverage vendors served up dinner and dessert.

Kanoa Resort joined the 18th-Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden.

Conall Hartig, second from right, ruled the Ages 10-13 heat of the Pie Eating Competition at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden on May 14, 2016. He was followed by Thomas Benavente, fourth from right, and Christina Kim, second from left, in third place.

Ten participants joined the adult heat of the Pie Eating Competition on May 14, 2016, at Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden.

Artists and crafts people displayed and sold their wares on May 14, 2016, at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden.



Luther Lizama, third from right, ruled the Ages 14-17 heat of the Pie Eating Competition, in first place, at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden on May 14, 2016. He was followed by Colin Ramsy, second from left, in second place and Lyn Ladringan, second from right, in third place.

Winners and contenders are in good spirits following the Pie Eating Competition at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden on May 14, 2016. Simon Necesito, fourth from left, finished first.

Age is an issue for senior girl dating sophomore boy

DEAR ABBY: I'm a senior (girl) in high school and have been dating a sophomore even though he's less than a year younger than I am. (I'm very young for my grade.) We have a lot in common and I think we both love each other a lot.

Next fall, I'm planning on going to a local community college, but I won't be too far away. I think my boyfriend has more interest in the military or a vocational career than college, but he's very serious and mature for his age. I know college will be a chance for me to meet new people and I don't want to limit my chances, but if I'm still interested in dating him, would it be "proper"?

I was already hesitant about dating him because he was younger, although I knew if the situation was reversed it wouldn't be a problem. Assuming everything still works out between us, is it OK for a college girl to date a high school boy? I'm not sure how to handle this. I know things may change before fall, but I'm getting anxious about it now. He has already said that he would still like to date me if I want to, so it's basically up to me.

ANXIOUS IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR ANXIOUS: As far as I know, there is no rule forbidding a college freshman continuing to date someone who is still in high school. Because the choice is yours, I suggest you just let this play out.

College will present you with a chance to widen not only your range of interests, but also your circle of acquaintances. You owe it to yourself to take advantage of everything that college offers. If you wish to continue seeing your current boyfriend, do so. However, it would be better for both of you if it is done on a non-exclusive basis for the next few years.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Several times recently when I have invited people to parties or dinners at our home, they have surprised me by responding with not only their regrets but also with a counteroffer. For example: "Sorry, we're busy the evening of the 22nd, but could you have us over the following Thursday?"

How should I respond to this? I'm trying to invite them for a specific event, not open a negotiation. It feels like the subtext is that our schedule is less important than our potential guests' and we should be prepared to entertain them whatever day they have open. On the other hand, this has happened so often I'm starting to wonder if social obligations are now being handled in the same way as business meetings and I should just adjust to it. What's your opinion?

COUNTEROFFERS IN LOS ANGELES

DEAR COUNTEROFFERS: You should entertain on the schedule that's most convenient for you. If someone has a conflict, you should (sweetly) tell the person you will miss having them. Period.

■■■

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

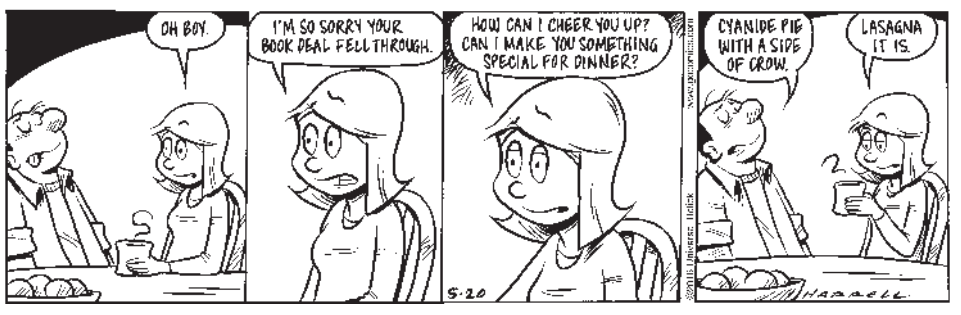
By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OH BOY.
I'M SO SORRY YOUR BOOK DEAL FELL THROUGH.
HOW CAN I CHEER YOU UP? CAN I MAKE YOU SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR DINNER?
CYANIDE PIE WITH A SIDE OF CROW.
LASAGNA IT IS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Prohibit
4 Wild guess
8 Verdi opera
12 Grenada gold
13 Circle dance
14 Picture of health?
15 Credits for frequent fliers
17 Capri, e.g.
18 Mexican entree
19 Swelled head
21 Last (Abbr.)
22 Sermon
26 Vendettas
29 Chest bone
30 Feathery neckpiece
31 Rim
32 Place
33 Sandbox toy
34 Erie Canal mule
35 Flavor enhancer, for short
36 Intrinsically
37 :-)
39 Carte lead-in
40 Curved line
41 Eager
45 "Go no further!"
48 $10 portrait
50 "Toodle-oo!"
51 Victor's cry
52 Tax prep pro
53 Bubblehead
54 Birth doc.
55 Chop

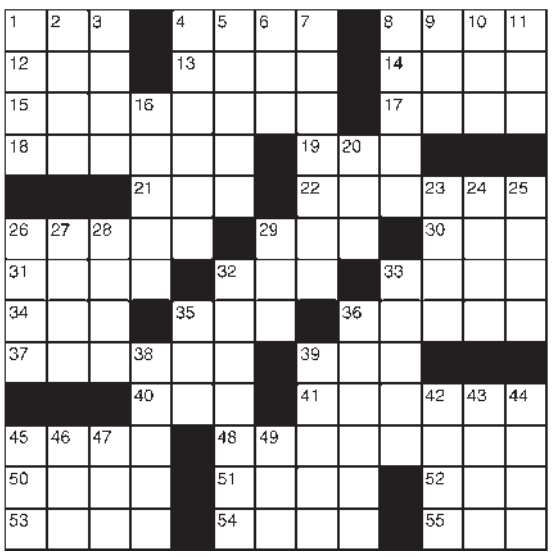
DOWN

1 Gravy vessel
2 Met solo
3 Standard
4 Con artist's aides
5 Apartment sign
6 Exist
7 Single
8 Self-evident truth
9 1040 org.
10 The Cowboys, on a scoreboard
11 Nay undoer
16 "All in the Family" spin-off
20 Sailor
23 Construction piece
24 Clark's love
25 Harvard rival
26 Own (up)
27 Dutch cheese
28 Wrinkly fruit
29 Cheap hairpiece
32 Like a mind reader
33 Oyster's prize
35 Debussy's "La —"
36 Lament
38 Bolivian city
39 Knight wear
42 Craving
43 "Uh-uh"
44 Squirrels do it
45 Norm (Abbr.)
46 — chi
47 Mel of Cooperstown
49 Shock partner

Solution time: 25 mins.

T	A	L	C		S	W	A	G		S	P	Y
A	L	A	R		K	O	B	E		P	E	A
D	F	I	I	C	I	O	U	S		F	F	I
S	C	A	M	P	S			S	U	C	R	E
			P	A		A	I	O	.	I		
P	I	G	S		R	P	M		T	O	A	D
F	I	R			A	L	A			U	R	N
C	I	A	O		M	U	M		A	S	T	A
		C	H	E	S	S		E	T			
T	W		S	T			B	A	R	B	R	A
R	O	O		H	I	L	A	R	I	O	U	S
I	O	U		F	P	I	C		U	N	I	T
M	O	S		R	O	T	H		M	O	N	O

Yesterday's answer 5-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: David Beckham, 41; Tony Stewart, 45; Tony Goldwyn, 56; Cher, 70.

Happy Birthday: Follow your intuition and let your emotions guide you. You won't make a mistake if you are true to yourself and the way you feel. Clear the air so that you are able to move forward without any guilt. You have plenty to look forward to if you give yourself a chance to explore your dreams, hopes and wishes. Your numbers are 4, 13, 21, 25, 32, 39, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Picking up more skills, signing up for courses or going back to school full-time will help you move in a new direction. Don't feel bound to a contract that has not stayed true to its original promise. It's time to put yourself first. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Let everyone know how you feel so that you can move forward with your plans and the things you want to accomplish. You'll get the support and suggestions you need to help make a noteworthy transition. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Someone will try to take advantage of your vulnerability, so examine all proposals carefully. Don't make donations toward something that promises the impossible. Keep your ideas and plans a secret until you have everything in place to move forward. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Your ability to see things differently than others will play in your favor. Be original and express your thoughts with passion. The outcome will be beneficial and put you in a good position to negotiate. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't be too open about your plans. The changes you want to make will have a far greater impact if you take everyone by surprise. Don't let an emotional incident lead to a disagreement with someone you love. Keep the peace. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Communication will help you decide whether something you want to pursue is doable. Make plans to socialize and engage in activities that will encourage you to take on a pursuit that will expose you to different beliefs. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make travel plans if it will help you gain insight into something you want to pursue. Talking with someone who has experience will help you decide whether to sign up for a course, find a mentor or pursue a career in teaching. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Make plans with people who share your interests. Love and romance will improve your personal life and help you discover the best professional path to take. An unexpected change at home will be beneficial. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Problems with institutions, rules and regulations are best dealt with quickly. If you linger too long over details, you will look suspicious. Domestic changes will help stabilize your life and bring you peace of mind. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Look over your personal papers and update important documents. If you feel uncertain about a financial transaction, take a pass. Investing in yourself will bring the best rewards. Work at improving your image. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Keep emotional issues under control. The less you say, the easier it will be to accomplish your professional goals. Be aggressive about putting your skills to the test, and you will make an impression on someone influential. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Watch what others do and try not to feel pressured. The more you know, the more difficult it will be for someone to take advantage of you. Do your own negotiating and take care of your investments personally. Romance looks promising. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, adaptable and outgoing. You are a conversationalist and a storyteller.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8				9			
7		4	1			3		
	5				3		7	
	3				6	2		9
8		6	7				3	
	9		8				1	
		2			7	5		3
			2				4	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	1	2	3	4	9	8	6	5
3	9	5	6	8	1	2	4	7
8	4	6	7	2	5	3	1	9
4	7	3	9	1	6	5	8	2
6	5	9	8	7	2	4	3	1
2	8	1	4	5	3	9	7	6
5	2	4	1	6	8	7	9	3
9	6	7	5	3	4	1	2	8
1	3	8	2	9	7	6	5	4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/15

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

ARCHERY KITS Solution: 4 letters

T	T	W	B	L	I	N	D	R	A	U	G	M	R	A
H	O	E	O	C	O	M	P	O	U	N	D	S	T	G
U	A	X	G	R	F	L	A	T	I	O	S	L	P	R
M	L	N	O	R	R	U	F	H	O	R	O	I	L	I
B	U	W	D	P	A	A	C	W	O	B	D	N	K	P
R	M	O	R	L	H	T	C	S	M	S	E	G	C	S
I	I	B	A	S	E	I	S	I	T	P	V	F	A	W
N	N	G	W	L	T	E	L	A	A	O	R	E	B	O
G	U	N	F	S	R	G	B	I	N	R	U	A	R	B
N	M	O	A	P	N	I	L	A	T	T	C	T	A	S
I	R	L	P	I	L	L	M	O	M	E	E	H	C	S
H	E	U	T	I	I	W	A	L	V	B	R	E	E	O
S	S	T	Z	K	O	X	T	R	E	E	O	R	R	R
I	I	E	S	B	L	O	A	D	A	C	R	O	N	C
F	R	E	L	E	A	S	E	C	I	T	C	A	R	P

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Aluminum, Archer, Armguard, Arrow, Axle, Back, Bamboo, Blind, Bolt, Bowman, Bracer, Compound, Crossbow, Dacron, Draw, Elastic, Feather, Fishing, Fitting, Flat, Fletching, Glove, Grips, Handle, Limb, Load, Longbow, Practice, Recurved, Release, Riser, Shaft, Skill, Sling, Sport, Stabilizer, Suppressors, Target, Thumb Ring, Toxophilite, Tree, Wood

Yesterday's Answer: Mountain

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WHATZIT Solution: High spot of the evening

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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Auto Marine Inc.
(1) Customer Representative
Must have 3 years experience in dealing with Customers
Knowledgeable in Boat Scheduling and Dispatching.
Send your resume at santos_adonis@yahoo.com
Contact No. 323-2916

LOOKING FOR SURROGATES
If you are female between the ages of 21 and 40, have had at least one natural child birth, and are interested in learning more about being a surrogate, please call Karen @ 783-1367.
Compensation is over $22,000.
Or receive $500 for referral of qualified candidates.

SURROGATE MOTHER
American Couples and Non-American Couples are seeking your help to fulfill their dream to have a child. If you are female between the ages of 21 and 40, have had at least one natural child birth, and are interested in learning more about being a surrogate, please contact Karen @ 783-1367.
Compensation is over $22,000. or receive $500 for referral of qualified candidates.

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Philpan International Inc. need
(1) Sales Representative
Must have 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Invoicing
Contact No. 783-0367

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
LSG SKYCHEFS SAIPAN
(1) Operation Supervisor
Qualifications: Graduation from a recognized college or university with an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree in public or business administration or closely related field and 3-4 years of professional activities; or airline catering activities.

Help Wanted
Mariana Entertainment LLC is recruiting immediately for 1 (one)

Assistant Club Manager

Job Duties to include (but not limited to):
Assist Club Manager with the overall operation of staffing; cash handling and counting; vendor relations; supply ordering and accountability; profitability and operational efficiencies; general operational procedures and regulatory compliance.
Qualifications: 3 years previous management experience in gaming and/or cash handling operation required. Customer service experience preferred. Must be able to obtain CNMI gaming license.
One, full-time position available.

Please email resume to:
Club88mholl@gmail.com

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

JOB VACANCY

(1) Accounts Receivable Accountant
- Previous hotel-related experience preferred, progressive experience in revenue and accounts receivable operations. Strong personal computer skills essential.
- College graduate, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration major in accountancy preferable or 2 years experience within the field.

(1) Accounts Payable Accountant
- Previous hotel-related experience preferred; progressive experience in accounts payable operations and payroll processing. Strong personal computer skills essential.
- College graduate, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, major in accountancy preferable or 2 years experience within the field.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from our security office located at the South Wing. To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than May 26, 2016. Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

MAR PAC Inc. EST. 1973

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc. is looking for highly motivated and experienced individuals to work Full Time as

Graphic Artist

- Good Oral and Written Communications Skills
- Must be proficient in Adobe Photoshop & Illustrator
- Knowledge of Corel Draw & Onyx Poster Shop is a plus
- Must be able to brainstorm and mock up new design ideas
- Must be detail & deadline oriented
- Must be able to work Evenings/Overtime if needed
- Must be 18 yrs of age or older

MarPac Dist., Inc offers competitive salaries commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applications may be picked up and submitted at the MARPAC office located in Gualo Rai Village – Deadline of submission is on Wednesday, May 25.

NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE.

As condition of Employment, MARPAC requires proof of identity and eligibility to work in the CNMI.
Police and Court Clearance required.

MARPAC Dist., Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

EMPLOYMENT

1 Carpenter - $6.55/hr. 4 years experience. Hong Electric Ent. Inc. Email: hongeei@pticom.com.

MARIANAS OUTSOURCE LLC. is looking for 1 Full time Computer Specialist, Part Timer - 1 Grounds Keeper, 1 Commercial Cleaner, General Maintenance - $6.05/hr. Interested US qualified applicants send resume & police clearance at marianasoutsource@gmail.com.

PKCL ENTERPRISES
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Building Maintenance Repairer (2)
High School graduate or equivalent, 5 years work experience in plumbing, electrical, carpentry, painting, masonry, and various other construction and repair work. $6.05/hour

Grounds Maintenance (1)
High School graduate or equivalent with 5 years work experience. Must be honest and trustworthy. Works flexible hours. $6.05/hour

Send resume to PKCL ENTERPRISES, P.O. Box 501957, Saipan MP 96950

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Commercial Cleaning and Maintenance

If interested, bring resume and police clearance to Saipan International School. No telephone calls please.

We are an equal opportunity employer pay no less than the CNMI minimum wage.

Job Vacancy Announcement

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc., DBA: Club C has a job opening for the following position:

Guest Services Officer (1)

Position Summary: Responsible for ensuring the smooth operation of the guest services desk on a designated shift. Ensure full support is given to visiting junkets, premium players and VIP's visiting the e-gaming/digital lounge. Assist in obtaining player information to develop and maintain a comprehensive player database. Assist in the preparation of departmental reports. And other duties as assign.

Position Requirement: High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus 3 years successful work experience as a guest services officer in a casino, slots or gaming club or lounge or any equivalent combination of experience, education and/or training where guests services skills are demonstrated. Able to communicate clearly and possess a good command of verbal and written English and Chinese Mandarin. Excellent Public Speaking and communication skills. Must be computer literate with effective negotiating and problem solving skills.

Compensation: This position will be filled and paid at a rate commensurate with qualifications, work experience and ability to perform.

Job Location: Kanoa Resort, Susupe Beach Road, Saipan

Application: Interested qualified applicant may pick up an Employment Application form at our HR Department from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00am to 5:00pm. No phone calls. Employment Application form must be accompanied with a resume, valid ID and certificates to support the application form. Deadline for submission of completed applications is June 01, 2016 at 5:00pm. Applicant must be eligible to work in the United States.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

evening

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Find today's solution in classified section

TAGA *Sports* is now on issuu.com/tagasports!

Check out the latest issue and back issues of TAGA Sports, the CNMI's first and premier sports magazine, on issuu.com/tagasports!

Now you won't have to miss a copy of TAGA Sports. Visit issuu.com/tagasports to get your fix on all sports happenings in the CNMI!

To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad, call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747.

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is now accepting applications for experienced:

- Supervisors
- Kitchen Helpers
- Servers
- Cooks

Apply in person at the **Triple J Corporate Office,** Ground Floor, Silver Hotel, Brigida St., Chalan Kanoa Monday through Friday, 9am to 12noon.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

corpoffice@triplejsaipan.com

Triple J is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CHAMPION FINANCE

Champion Finance is looking for Dynamic individuals who would like to be a part of our team for the following post.

Loan / Financial Manager

Duties:

- Review loan agreements to ensure that they are complete and accurate according to policy.
- Approve, reject, or coordinate the approval or rejection of lines of credit or commercial, real estate, or personal loans.
- Analyze applicants' financial status, credit, and property evaluations to determine feasibility of granting loans.
- Review collection reports to determine the status of collections and the amounts of outstanding balances.
- Set credit policies, credit lines, procedures and standards in conjunction with senior managers.
- Oversee the flow of cash or financial instruments.
- Prepare financial or regulatory reports required by laws, regulations, or boardsof directors.
- Develop or analyze information to assess the current or future financial status of firms.
- Evaluate financial reporting systems, accounting or collection procedures, or investment activities and make recommendations for changes to procedures, operating systems, budgets, or other financial control functions.
- Establish procedures for custody or control of assets, records, loan collateral, or securities to ensure safekeeping.
- Plan, direct, and coordinate risk and insurance programs of establishments to control risks and losses.

Education/Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Business Administration or Accounting and 2 years' experience in Finance will be a plus. Salary will be discussed upon interview.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumes or pick up an employment application at Champion Finance, 3rd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 316-B or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-025

Opening Date: Friday, May 13, 2016
Closing Date: Until Filled

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM"). CUC is a public utility corporation, operating on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI")—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM")

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:
Reporting directly to CUC's Deputy Executive Director or designee, the "DM" fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

- The incumbent of this position is under the direct supervision of the Deputy Executive Director (which may also be known as the Deputy Director for Water and Wastewater)
- Manages and oversees the CUC Drinking Water and Wastewater Division.
- Supervises employees in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- Manages, leads, motivates, and develops staff towards attaining needed training, skills, and certifications.
- Participates in the management of drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; user fee system development.
- Other duties as required or assigned.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- An equivalent to a four year college degree, and major work in engineering, or other field related to work with large-scale utilities;
- Five years of proven, specialized experience as a manager in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- Skills: Proven management and communication skills; Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff.
- Experience: Experience with managing drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
- Knowledge: Through knowledge of the operating principles and maintenance requirements of at least three (3) million gallons per day ("mgd") of an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant including primary and secondary treatment processes, oxygen production, and sludge digestion and dewatering.
- Preferred Requirements:
  - Bachelor's degree in Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Civil Engineering, Public Administration, or a degree related to the position.
  - Current (unexpired) level 3 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in water treatment, and water distribution.
  - Current (unexpired) level 2 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in wastewater treatment, and wastewater distribution.

LOCATION:
SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY INFORMATION:
Based on specialized experience as a water and wastewater utility manager in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia. Also, based on educational achievement and specific (unexpired) certifications stated in this ad as preferred requirements.

POSITION:
One (1).

CONTRACT:
Two-year; subject to renewal.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:
If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Curry dazzles again, Warriors even series

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Once Stephen Curry finally gathered himself and got up following a scary first-quarter dive into the stands, fans inside Oracle Arena could take a breath, sit back and watch the MVP put on a spectacular shooting show.

Puffy right elbow and all.

"The elbow's fine," said Curry, who hit it first on a metal platform then later bonked it again. "It looks like it has a tennis ball on top of it. ... I should be all right."

He seemed more than fine, scoring 15 straight points in less than 2 minutes during one dazzling third-quarter stretch to lead the Golden State Warriors past the Oklahoma City Thunder 118-91 on Wednesday night to even the Western Conference finals at one game apiece.

"Business as usual. This is what he does," coach Steve Kerr said, before being asked how he feels during such a Curry onslaught and responding with a chuckle: "I feel great joy. It's true."

The MVP scored 28 points, making 5 of 8 3-pointers and shooting 9 for 15 overall, while Klay Thompson added 15 points in a balanced performance by the defending champions to bounce back from just their third home defeat all season in the series opener two nights earlier.

"We responded all year long whether it was a bad loss or a sloppy win," Thompson said. "We come back sharp the next game, and it's a testament to everybody on this team."

Kevin Durant scored 29 points but just six after halftime. Russell Westbrook had 16 points and 12 assists for the Thunder, who were outrebounded for the first time in five meetings with the Warriors this season.

"They were sending three guys. I was trying to make the right pass," Durant said. "Maybe I've just got to shoot over three people."

Game 3 is Sunday night in Oklahoma City.

Durant provided a big assist during Curry's flurry. He fouled the superstar point guard on a 3-point attempt with 6:33 to go in the third, then swatted his hand in disgust at the call and received a technical - a costly four-point play. While Durant hit a fadeaway jumper moments later, Curry answered by knocking down consecutive long shots, one a 3, to make it 76-59 with 5:47 to go in the third.

Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, center, controls a loose ball under Oklahoma City Thunder guards Russell Westbrook (0) and Andre Roberson during the second half of Game 2 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals in Oakland, Calif., Wednesday, May 18, 2016.

"They were certainly very, very lively on both ends of the floor," Thunder coach Billy Donovan said. "We let Curry get loose a few times."

NBA Finals MVP Andre Iguodala missed his first five shots before a beautiful double-clutch, no-look layup in the final minute of the first half and then an alley-oop dunk the next time down that put the Warriors up 57-49 at halftime. He wound up with 14 points.

Festus Ezeli scored 12 points for his first game in double digits these playoffs, Marreese Speights had 13 points off the bench, and Golden State didn't falter after halftime the way it did two nights earlier in losing Game 1 108-102.

It was a stark contrast from Monday, when Golden State allowed 38 third-quarter points and was held to playoff lows of 42 second-half points and 14 in the fourth quarter. Oklahoma City's 14-point comeback in Game 1 was the largest against the Warriors this postseason.

Curry said he couldn't wait for another chance after dropping the series opener for the first time since 2013. Then, he took out any remaining frustrations from Monday's loss on the Thunder.

Even if the do-everything point guard gave the entire building a gasp when he went diving into the stands at the 2:54 mark of the first quarter before slowly finding his way up in one piece.

"I was just hoping he was OK," Draymond Green said. "Flying over the seats like that you don't know if it's a leg, if it's an elbow, if it's a head."

Curry was sidelined by ankle and knee injuries during the first two rounds of the playoffs.

"Tonight, started off with a nice punch and was able to sustain it over the course of the game," Curry said. "When I get open shots obviously the confidence is there to knock them down. It's been like that since I've been back. My body's catching up and I think I'm there."

Golden State is 12-0 in games after a loss this season.

Motivated Spieth back home at Nelson

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Jordan Spieth is back home, at the tournament he and his father have hopped a fence to watch and at the TPC course where as a 16-year-old he played his first PGA Tour event.

Now 22 and the No. 2 player in the world, Spieth has the same ranking he had going into the AT&T Byron Nelson last year—though he has since reached No. 1 and then fallen back to second behind Jason Day, who has won seven of his past 17 tournaments.

"I'm looking to get that back ... definitely there's some motivation there. He's playing his game. He believes his game is better than anybody else's and he's on his game," Spieth said.

"What he's doing right now, I think I can win the next two events and I'm still not going to surpass him in the World Rankings. He's separated himself and that bothers me and it motivates me."

Day went wire-to-wire for a four-shot victory at The Players Championship last week. But Day, who got his first PGA Tour victory at TPC Four Seasons in 2010, won't play the Nelson for the third year in a row.

Spieth played the first two rounds at The Players with Day, who was 15 under during that span and won with the same score.

But Spieth missed the cut in his first tournament since squandering a five-shot lead on the back nine at Augusta in April and missed the chance to win consecutive Masters titles.

What Spieth revealed after making a 15-foot birdie putt on his last hole at The Players was that he felt as if he was beating himself up on the course too much, and needed to do a better job being positive and having more fun.

Being at home seemingly provides the perfect opportunity for that to happen, but Spieth admitted it might not be that simple.

"I can hit either extreme this week, trying so hard to play so well in front of so many friends and family and if you're not quite doing it, which I hadn't, I haven't in the past four years, it can be really tough to kind of hold it together," he said.

"At the same time, if I can engage with my friends and family maybe, and kind of smile more, it's only going to help me on the course if I'm approaching it like it's just another round with friends."

Knicks working to hire Hornacek as coach

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Knicks want Jeff Hornacek as their next coach.

The team is working on a deal to hire Hornacek, a person with knowledge of the details told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

President of Basketball Operations Phil Jackson has had discussions with the former Phoenix Suns coach and there is mutual interest, but they have not begun negotiations on a contract, the person said on condition of anonymity because details of the coaching search are private.

Bleacher Report first reported that the Knicks would hire Hornacek.

The Knicks finished the season with Kurt Rambis as interim coach after Jackson fired Derek Fisher in February. Jackson also met with former Cleveland coach David Blatt and former Indiana coach Frank Vogel before turning his attention to Hornacek.

Hornacek went 101-112 in 2 1/2 seasons in Phoenix before he was fired Feb. 1 with a 14-35 record. He led the Suns to a surprising 48-34 record in his first season, when they almost made the playoffs with a team that was expected to be one of the worst in the league, but the team was in one of the worst stretches in its history when he was dismissed.

He was an unexpected candidate, given Jackson's stated intention to hire someone with whom he had a relationship. Hornacek never played for or worked under Jackson, who won an NBA-record 11 championships as a coach.

Rambis had been the only candidate Jackson identified after the season ended in April. He was only 9-19 after replacing Fisher, but is close with Jackson and runs the triangle offense that Jackson favors.

Hornacek, who played in two NBA Finals with the Utah Jazz when they lost to Jackson's Chicago Bulls, ran a fast-paced, guard-oriented offense in Phoenix.

The Knicks finished 32-50 last season, their third straight season out of the playoffs.

Jackson was in no hurry to make a hire, saying last month it could be May, or could be July. While other teams worked quickly to fill their openings, he took a trip across the country, posting some pictures on Twitter along the way.

But he began talking at some point with Hornacek and will try to close a deal he could never get done with Steve Kerr two summers ago. Jackson said he let Kerr out of a verbal agreement when the Golden State job became available, and the Knicks ended up hiring Fisher.

Rays beat Blue Jays to complete 3-game sweep

TORONTO (AP)—Kevin Kiermaier hit a two-run homer, Logan Morrison and Desmond Jennings each had solo shots and the Tampa Bay Rays beat the slumping Toronto Blue Jays 6-3 on Wednesday night to complete a three-game sweep.

Morrison had three hits and scored twice for the Rays, who outscored the Blue Jays 31-7 over the series.

Tampa Bay set a team record with 44 hits in a three-game series. The Rays came in tied with Baltimore and the New York Mets for the major league lead with 55 homers.

Edwin Encarnacion, Jimmy Paredes and Michael Saunders hit solo homers, but Toronto lost its season-high fifth straight and dropped four games below .500 for the first time in 2016.

Jake Odorizzi (1-2) allowed two runs and two hits in five innings to win for the first time in nine starts this season.

AP

Tampa Bay Rays pitcher Chris Archer works against the Toronto Blue Jays during the first inning of a baseball game Wednesday, May 18, 2016, in Toronto.

Tigers 6, Twins 3

In Detroit, Justin Verlander struck out 10 batters, including the 2,000th of his career, to help the Detroit Tigers beat the Minnesota Twins on Wednesday.

The Tigers have won four straight, equaling a season high, after losing 11 of 12 games.

Verlander (3-4) allowed six hits and three runs over 7 1/3 innings while matching his season high in strikeouts.

Nationals 7, Mets 1

In New York, Daniel Murphy drove in two runs against his former team to back Gio Gonzalez in his latest win at Citi Field, sending patient Washington past New York.

Anthony Rendon snapped a fifth-inning tie with a two-run single for the Nationals, who stopped a three-game skid and held onto first place in the NL East.

Giants 2, Padres 1

In San Diego, Johnny Cueto threw a four-hitter and Hunter Pence hit a two-run homer, leading San Francisco to its seventh straight win with a victory over San Diego.

Cueto (6-1) struck out eight and walked two while allowing one run in his second complete game of the season -- both coming against the Padres. He improved to 4-1 in his career vs. San Diego, including a shutout on April 26.

Royals 3, Red Sox 2
Red Sox 5, Royals 2

In Kansas City, Jackie Bradley Jr. and Mookie Betts homered to back a strong start by David Price, and Boston beat Kansas City to salvage a split of their day-night doubleheader.

The Royals won the opener 3-2 behind a strong performance by Ian Kennedy and their bullpen. Kennedy allowed two runs on six hits and a walk over 5 2/3 innings, striking out nine.

Cardinals 2, Rockies 0

In St. Louis, Adam Wainwright threw six-hit ball into the seventh inning in his best start of the season and Matt Holliday had a two-run double and St. Louis ended the Colorado Rockies' five-game winning streak.

Stephen Piscotty had three hits and scored a run for the Cardinals, who had lost three of four.

Chris Rusin (1-2) allowed two runs in six innings for the Rockies.

Astros 5, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Jose Altuve had three hits and two runs batted in, Colby Rasmus and Jason Castro each had a solo home run and Houston beat Chicago despite the White Sox turning their second triple play of the season.

Altuve went 3 for 4 with a walk and Castro went 2 for 3 with a walk.

Indians 8, Reds 7, 12 innings

In Cincinnati, Rajai Davis hit a tying, two-run homer in the ninth inning, and Francisco Lindor led off the 12th with another homer, powering Cleveland to a victory.

The Indians won the first two games of the interleague series 15-6 and 13-1 in Cleveland, then made the 250-mile trip south and pulled out another.

Yankees 4, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Nathan Eovaldi retired the 18 batters he faced after allowing a freak leadoff base hit and New York salvaged the final game of a three-game series in Arizona.

Jean Segura's ground ball to start the first inning bounced off the bag at second and dribbled into the outfield for a double. After that, only two balls even reached the outfield off the Yankees right-hander, who hit 100 mph on the Chase Field radar gun while improving to 4-0 in his last five starts.

Braves 3, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Julio Teheran allowed five hits in 7 2/3 crisp innings and Atlanta gave Brian Snitker his first victory as interim manager.

Teheran (1-4) struck out three without a walk to end six weeks of frustration. Tyler Flowers hit a home run to the bushes in center field and finished with three hits for the Braves, who won for just the third time in their last 13 games.

Orioles 5, Mariners 2

In Baltimore, Chris Tillman won his fifth straight start with another solid performance against his former team and Baltimore beat Seattle.

Mark Trumbo and Matt Wieters hit back-to-back homers for the Orioles, whose 17-7 record at Camden Yards is the best home mark in the major leagues.

Taijuan Walker (2-3) allowed four runs on five hits over five innings.

Athletics 8, Rangers 1

In Oakland, Khris Davis hit his fourth home run in two games, Danny Valencia drove in two and Oakland completed a three-game sweep of Texas.

Rich Hill (6-3) won for the first time at home, and his third straight, after giving up a run on three hits over his six innings. He walked one and struck out six.

Phillies 4, Marlins 2

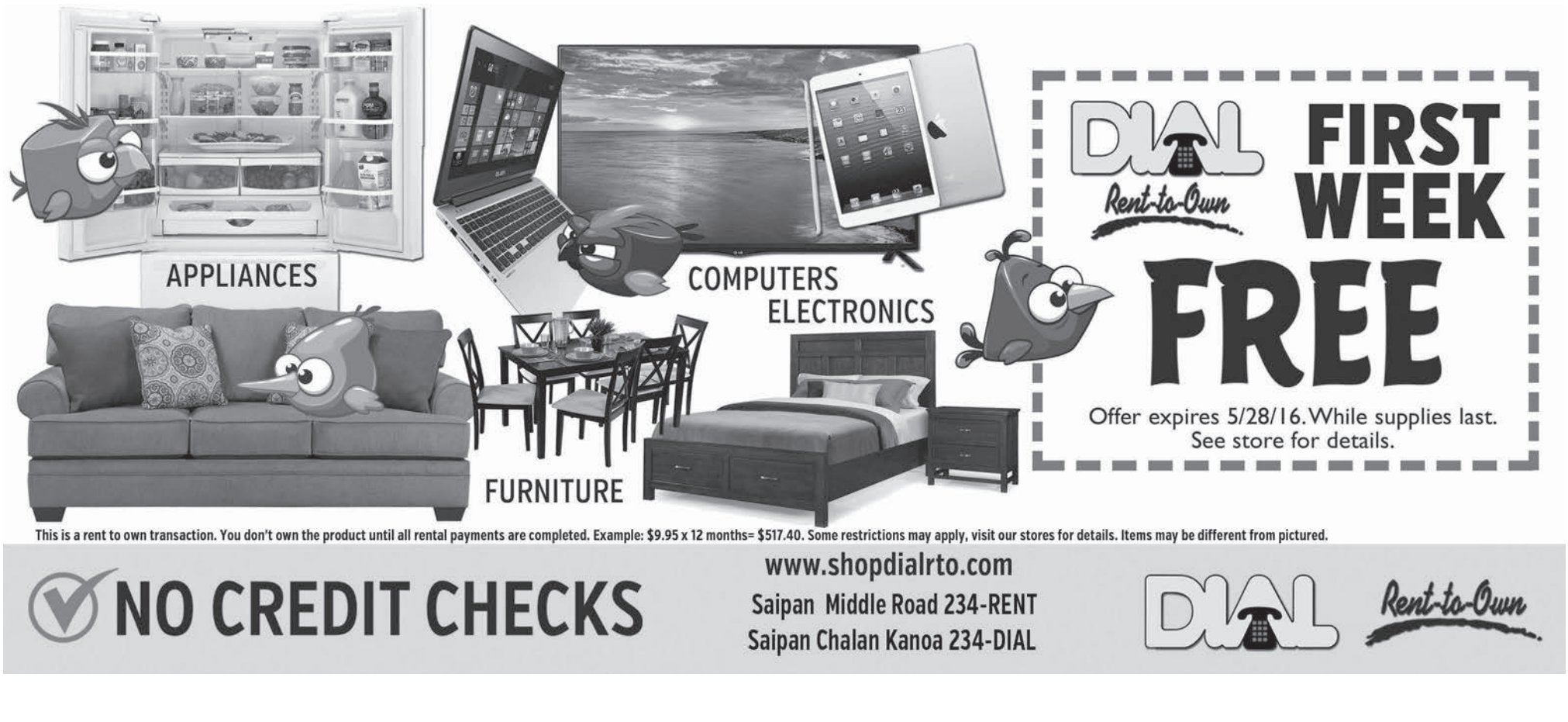
In Philadelphia, Tyler Goeddel hit his first career homer, Jeremy Hellickson pitched six sharp innings and Philadelphia beat Miami.

Hellickson (4-2) allowed two runs and five hits, striking out four. He retired 11 in a row at one point and pitched well after a shaky start.

Angels 8, Dodgers 1

In Anaheim, Mike Trout homered and the Los Angeles Angels broke the game open with five runs in the fifth inning to beat the Dodgers 8-1 on Wednesday night in the Freeway Series.

C.J. Cron's bases-loaded infield single put the Angels ahead 2-1 and opened the floodgates. Mike Bolsinger (0-1) began the inning by giving up a single to Yunel Escobar and issuing a one-out walk to Trout.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Micronesian Baseball Classic gets donation from TSL Foundation

Organizers of the Inaugural Micronesian Baseball Classic received in-kind donation worth $20,000 from Tan Siu Lin Foundation yesterday.

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan and TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino turned in 2,500 shirts to the MBC Organizing Committee led by Saipan Baseball League president Rose Igitol in a brief ceremony at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

"We would like to thank Jerry Tan and the TSL Foundation for their generosity," Igitol said in a press release.

"Baseball is one of the favorites sports in the CNMI and we at TSL Foundation would like to support events that encourage participation from our community and also promote sportsmanship and active lifestyle through sports. We wish all the teams good luck and we encourage our community to come down to the baseball field and watch the games," Tolentino said.

MBC organizers and volunteers will sold the shirts and all proceeds from the sale (which is estimated at $20,000) will be used for the operational cost of the tournament that will feature teams from the CNMI, Palau, Kosrae, and Guam. The first edition of the quadrennial baseball competition will be held at the "Tan Ko" field from June 24 to July 1.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Micronesian Baseball Classic's Organizing Committee and Tan Siu Lin Foundation officials show the shirts donated by the latter during the donation turnover ceremony yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

"The four confirmed squads are Palau, Guam, Kosrae, and of course the CNMI. We are still waiting for confirmation from Pohnpei and we will give them until next week to inform us if they are going or not," tournament director Tony Rogolifoi said in a press release.

"We are encouraging the community and the baseball fans to go to the "Tan Ko" field to support, not only the CNMI, but all the participating teams. This is a preview of the baseball competition in the 2018 Micronesian Games," Rogolifoi added.

Schedule of games in next month's MBC has yet to be finalized, but Rogolifoi said they may hold two matches every day with the first one in the afternoon and the last in the evening.

Rogolifoi added that the 22 players suiting up for the CNMI will be chosen from the teams that are competing in the ongoing 2016 Saipan Baseball League.

"Selection will be based on stats, attitude of the players, and overall performance in the league. We will also select three members of the coaching staff, including the manager," Rogolifoi said. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Johnson, Cameron arrive at US soccer camp with injuries

MIAMI SHORES, Fla. (AP)—Midfielder Fabian Johnson and defender Geoff Cameron reported to the American training camp with injuries and didn't practice at 100 percent Wednesday, according to the U.S. Soccer Federation.

Johnson has been slowed by a groin injury and hasn't played in a match since entering as an 81st-minute substitute for Borussia Moenchengladbach against Hoffenheim in the Bundesliga on April 24. Johnson's last start was April 15.

Cameron has a sore hamstring and left in the 80th minute of Stoke's season-ending 2-1 win over West Ham on Sunday.

The U.S. is preparing for a Sunday exhibition at Puerto Rico as it gets ready for its Copa America opener against Colombia on June 3. U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann must submit his 23-man Copa roster on Friday.

Meanwhile, in Chicago, defender Christie Rampone is returning to the U.S. women's team for the first time since September.

The American captain had arthroscopic surgery on her right knee on Sept. 4, a day after playing until the 51st minute of a 7-0 exhibition win over Mexico. Rampone, 40, has appeared in all five of Sky Blue's games this season in the National Women's Soccer League.

AP

In this Friday Feb. 5, 2016, file photo, United States' Jozy Altidore, left, tries to shoot as Canada's Steven Vitoria vie defends during the first half of an exhibition soccer match in Carson, Calif. Altidore appears certain to miss the Copa America Centenario following yet another hamstring injury.

Rampone is among 25 players who will report to Denver on May 27 ahead of a June 2 exhibition against Japan at Commerce City, Colorado, the U.S. Soccer Federation said Wednesday. The Americans also play Japan on June 5 at Cleveland.

The Americans are preparing to defend their Olympic gold medal and will have to select an 18-player roster for the August tournament in Brazil. Seventh-ranked Japan, which lost to the U.S. in the finals of the 2012 Olympics and the 2011 and 2015 World Cups, failed to qualify for this year's 12-nation Olympic field.

Defender Gina Lewandowski will be with the U.S. team for the first time since making her debut in October.

The U.S. is missing midfielder Carli Lloyd, the FIFA Player of the Year, who sprained her right knee on April 23. The top-ranked Americans also are without midfielder Megan Rapinoe, who tore her right anterior cruciate ligament, and midfielder Sydney Leroux and forward Amy Rodriguez, who are pregnant.

CNMI

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Taipei. Guam has a 1-1 record as it won over Hong Kong.

Meanwhile, draws for two more women's competitions in the AFC were held yesterday.

In the AFC U19 Women's Championships 2017, the CNMI is in Group A along with Australia, Jordan, Singapore, and Lebanon. There are three other groups in the preliminary tournament. In the AFC U16 Women's Championships 2017, the CNMI has been drawn win South Korea, India, Philippines, Malaysia, and Lebanon in Group B.

COMETS

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ing out McDonald's first three batters at the top of the first inning, while in the second inning he fanned out two more batters. The Comets pitcher was also instrumental in the first out in the second inning, picking up a grounder and throwing to first to beat leadoff batter Joel Deleon Guerrero.

With Castro shutting down McDonalds in the first two innings, the Comets built a 10-0 lead. Reid Teregeyo, Bing Nakamura, Sab Saures, and Justin Magofna scored for the Comets at the bottom of the first and the latter added a two-run double in the second. Nakamura and Ross Arriola each added an RBI single and the former also scored off a passed ball. The Comets got two more runs off McDonald's passed balls in the second inning for the double-digit spread.

McDonald's then brought the lead down to 7, 3-10, after three complete innings as it was its turn to reach home plate twice off the Comets' passed balls. The other run came off a fielder's choice. However, the three-run top of the third was not enough to spark a big comeback, while the Comets countered with three runs at the bottom of the fourth to end the match quickly.

Nakamura was 3-for-3 in the Comets' victory, making three doubles, three runs, and three RBIs. Saures went 2-for-2 and tallied three runs.

LEE

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Fukumuro, 6-1, 6-2. Rengiil earned a quarterfinals slot following her 6-2, 6-0 victory over Hong Kong's Alicia Yue, while Tanaka shut down compatriot Yuki Sakurai, 6-0, 6-0.

Meanwhile, the quarterfinal cast in the boys singles division was also completed yesterday.

Making it to the Round of 8 at the upper half of the draw were the top-ranked Ching-Yang Meng of Chinese-Taipei and Japan's Kairi Inoue, Ryu Matsuda, and Taiyo Yamanaka. Japan also dominated the quarterfinalists list at the bottom half of the draw with Fumiya Yoshino, Ryoma Matsushita, Seita Watanabe, and Tsubasa Kato advancing.

Kato and his partner Yusuke Miyai are also in contention for the doubles crown as they defeated compatriot Soma Yokoyama and Hong Kong's Jonathan Zhang in the quarterfinals, 7-5, 6-4. The Japanese pair will play Chinese-Taipei's Ting-Hao Hsu and Cheng-Chieh Wang in the semis.

The other Final Four pairing will have the top-ranked duo of Ryuki Matsuda and Yohan Song meeting No. 4 seed Kai Kawano and Seita Watanabe.

Sugie, Cespedes top short course meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan held a short course meet last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool with the host's Takumi Sugie and Daniel Cespedes of the pledging Dolphin Club Saipan posting the fastest times in four events.

Sugie had the best times in the 20m kick and 20m freestyle contests, while Cespedes earned the same feats in the 20m butterfly and 20m backstroke.

The Dolphin member timed in at 14.08 in the 20m backstroke and was the lone swimmer to break the 20-second barrier in the sprint event. Cespedes bested 17 other swimmers. Kevin Guerrero logged the second fastest time at 20.86 seconds, while Kean Pajarillaga (23.58 seconds), Tommy Aldan (25.91 seconds), and Tellei Rechucher (26 seconds) were ranked third to fifth, respectively.

In the 20m butterfly, Cespedes lorded it over in the 27-swimmer field with his 10.31 seconds. Takumi Sugie was ranked second after clocking in at 10.75 seconds, while Miku Tammy (11.99 seconds), Angel De Jesus (12.08 seconds), and Nelson Batallones (12.12 seconds) rounded out the roster of swimmers with the Top 5 best times in the event.

In the 20m freestyle, it was Sugie's turn to take the top spot against Cespedes with the former submitting 9.98 seconds against the latter's 10.42 seconds. Mark Maestro (11.19 seconds), De Jesus (11.45 seconds), and Isaiah Aleksenko (11.48 seconds) made up the Top 5.

Earlier in the first event—20m kick—Sugie timed in at 13.03 seconds to prevail against 51 other swimmers, including five from the Dolphin Club Saipan. Besides Cespedes, Yulia Aleksenko, Emma Perez, Dave David, and Phoung Luu were the other members of the newest swim club on island who joined the weekend races.

Last Saturday's meet was the first of the two short course events Tsunami is hosting every year.

"It does not matter if the swimmers' times are so slow, as the most important thing is participation. For experienced swimmers, the meet served as a team building. We thank Dolphin Club for joining the short course meet," Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said.

"Two of the Dolphin Club Saipan swimmers were swimming in the first swim meet of their lives. It was the perfect first meet for these adult swimmers. We had a mix of swimmers, from novice to seasoned competitors. Each of our swimmers, regardless of experience, had a great time. Dolphin Club Saipan is a new club striving to build an adult swimming community with all the health benefits and comradeship such a community provides," Dolphin Club Saipan president Emma Perez said.

The club, through the support of Mariana Resort, gives free adult swim lessons on Saturdays from 2pm to 3pm. Free classes on ocean swim are available on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 6:30am-7:30am at the beach in front of Hyatt Regency Saipan. For more information, contact emmalouperez@gmail.com.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tsunami Saipan and Dolphin Club Saipan swimmers pose for a photo after a short course meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool last Saturday.

SGA April Ace Sunday at Kingfisher

The Saipan Golfers Association's April Ace of the Month Tournament will be held this Sunday at the Kingfisher Golf Links with show and tee times at 9am and 10am, respectively.

The winner of the club's fourth competition for the year will earn a slot to the SGA Ace of Aces and join early qualifiers Das Krishnan, Jung Eun Teack, and Greg Sablan Jr.

Krishnan ruled the March Ace of the Month contest after scoring a net 72. The 14-handicapper had 43s on both nines for a gross 86 and won the tiebreak against John Lizama. CNMI attorney general Ed Manibusan rounded out the Top 3 after firing a net 73, built around a 42 on the front and 36 on the back. Manibusan has a 5 handicap and also topped the closest to the pin contest on the par-3 hole No. 4 of the east course of Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Other closest to the winners in the March tournament were James Nelson on No. 6, John Cruz on No. 11, and Frank Castro on No. 15, while John Babauta and Sablan Jr. prevailed in the longest drive competition on holes No. 3 and 10, respectively.

Sablan Jr. ruled both the January and February Ace, but since he already secured the monthly plum in the group's first tournament of the year, Teack took the February honors. Sablan Jr. tallied a net 73 in the January competition held on the west course of the Kagman facility last Jan. 17 to beat Castro and Manibusan, who carded a net 74 and 75, respectively.

Manibusan then won the closest to the pin contest on No. 3, while Babauta, Steve Balakrishna, and James Nelson had the same feats on No. 7, 13, and 17. The Commonwealth's AG also got the longest drive victory on No. 2, while Castro topped the contest on No. 12.

Meanwhile, in the February Ace held on the west course, too last March 14, Sablan Jr. was ranked first with his net 71, one stroke ahead of Teack, while Castro finished third with his net 76

The Top 3 finishers also earned closest to the pin wins. *(Saipan Tribune)*

Curry dazzles again, Warriors even series

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Sports

Rays beat Blue Jays to complete 3-game sweep

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Lee stays in hunt for singles crown

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee gave herself an early graduation present in a form of a quarterfinal berth in the girls singles event of the 2016 IT&E Northern Marianas Juniors Championships.

Lee booked a Round of 8 ticket in the ITF Junior ranking tournament following a 7-5, 6-1 victory over Hong Kong's Avril Look yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

Her afternoon match against Look ended around 2pm and she had to return to the court about two hours later to play in the doubles quarterfinals game with Palau's Ayana Rengiil. Unfortunately, Lee and Rengiil bowed to the Japanese pair of Yuna Fukumuro and Haruka Hoshino in a super tiebreak third-set match, 6-4, 4-6, 5-10. The CNMI bet's doubles match wrapped up around 6pm and she had to rush home to prepare for her middle school graduation last night at Saipan Community School.

After a busy schedule yesterday, Lee will be back to the PIC court at 8:30am today to challenge the No. 4 seed Yuelin Chen of Chinese-Taipei for one of the semis berth at the lower half of the draw. Qualifiers Saki Oyama and No. 8 seed Mana Kawamura will duel for the other semis seat at the borrom half of the draw.

Oyama pulled off an upset against the second-ranked Claudia Ng of Hong Kong, 6-0, 6-3, while Kawamura downed Hoshino, 6-1, 6-4.

At the top half of the draw, it will be No. 1 seed and Japan's Rika Tanaka versus Rengiil and No. 2 pick Sara Tsukamoto of the U.S. against Hong Kong's Hong Yi Wong. Wong advanced after a 6-4, 6-4 triumph against Chinese-Taipei's Ting-Chieh Wei, while Tsukamoto eliminated

See LEE on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Carol Lee makes a baseline return to her and Ayana Rengiiil's Japanese foes during the girls doubles quarterfinals game in the 2016 IT&E Northern Marianas Juniors Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

Comets keep streak, favored in semis match vs Ol'Aces

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Comets eased their way to the semifinals of the Majors division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball after dominating McDonald's 13-3, in the first playoff game last Sunday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The victory was the Comets' 13th in as many games as they earlier swept the regular season and the win moved them to the Final Four meeting with the Ol'Aces. The Ol'Aces played in the final quarterfinal match last weekend and edged the Twins, 5-3, to earn the right to challenge the highly-favored and unbeaten Comets.

Pitcher J.P. Castro flirted with a no-no, throwing a one-hitter in the win which the Comets recorded after only four innings via 10-run mercy rule.

Castro started his shift by strik-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
J.P. Castro delivers a pitch to McDonald's during their quarterfinal game in the Majors division of the SLLB last Sunday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

CNMI plays better versus China

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A calmer CNMI Girls U14 National Team showed up in its game against China in the AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships last Wednesday night at the Xianghe Football Training Center in Beijing, China.

The Commonwealth bets lost the match, but allowed fewer goals (18) compared to their opening game against Japan.

"The girls have left their anxiety and nervousness from the first game behind. Although we lost, 18-0, the girls played so much better. They did their very best and it was a good performance," team manager Angie Ito said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

"The girls were not as nervous as yesterday (last Tuesday) and they were ready to bring it on against China," Ito added.

The CNMI crew, which had captain Princess Alcantara, keeper Irish Viray, Khristelle Itaas, Patricia Surima, Paulynn Joyce, Julianne Hall, Leisha Sally, Katrina Costales, Esther Jones, Lillian Podziewski, and Valeria Myers as starters, limited the hosts to seven goals in the first half, less than 6 from the number they gave up in their opener. Sharmaine Francisco, Therize Millare, Francesco Bucalig, and Hannah Santos also suited up against China.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
THE CNMI's starting 11 pose for a photo before their game against China in the AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships last Wednesday night at the Xianghe Football Training Center in Beijing.

"Before the game, the girls also watched a close match between South Korea and Japan," Ito said.

Japan won, 2-0, and was going for a sweep last night as it was set to face China in the first game at 2pm (4pm Saipan time). The CNMI played in the final pool play game against South Korea at 7pm and results of the match were unavailable at press time. A Japan win will put the team in first place in Pool A and in the semifinals. South Korea and China, which engaged in a 2-2 draw during the tournament's opening match, will have to break the tie for the second place and the last semis ticket that goes with it. The Top 2 finishers in Pool A will collide against their counterparts in Pool B. North Korea, pending last night's results, leads Pool B with its 2-0 record after beating Guam and Chinese-

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